



LEARN

German

in a Hurry



GRASP
THE BASICS OF
Deutsch
im Schnellgang!

Edward Swick

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Aadamsmedia
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Introduction

We live in a world where a lot of things go on at a very fast pace. Even language acquisition is often approached in a hurry. Well, if you're one of those people who need to learn some German quickly, this is the book for you. It doesn't matter if your goal for your new language is travel or business or just a personal interest in German. What's important is that you have the desire to learn, because that kind of attitude breeds success.

You'll find that the concepts contained in this book are presented in simple and clear language. Grammatical and linguistic terms are kept to a minimum and are fully explained when needed. You'll be briefed on the German alphabet and the sounds that are identical to English and the ones that are different. You'll be made aware of basic spelling rules, which in German are not complicated, because the language is—for the most part—written as it is pronounced.

Since German and English are brother and sister languages, you'll find many similarities between them, which is a distinct advantage when learning a new language. You

probably don't even need the English translation to know what the following words mean.

- *finden* (find)
- *Auto* (auto)
- *braun* (brown)
- *mein* (mine)
- *singen* (sing)
- *Winter* (winter)

This doesn't mean that you'll breeze through everything though. It's just that the similarity between German and English make the learning process a little smoother and far less frustrating.

If you apply yourself and take the book seriously, you'll end up with the basics for spoken and written communication. The vocabulary you'll encounter are the essentials you need for travel, dining, shopping, and getting by in an urban setting in Germany. You'll have enough skill with the tenses to make sense when you talk about things that happened yesterday or things that will go on today and tomorrow. In general, you'll know enough German to form the basis that will allow you to communicate as an educated foreigner and that will be the first building block for further German study.

Viel Spaß! Have fun!

01 / Beginning German

Learn Your ABCs and How to Pronounce Them

The German alphabet (*das Alphabet*) is made up of the same letters that make up our English alphabet, with one exception. German has one letter that we do not have in English. It is called an “ess-tset” and is often mistaken for a capital “B.” It looks like this (ß) and is pronounced like a double “s” (ESS). It takes the place of *ss* after long vowels or diphthongs. Note these examples: *heißen*, *groß*, *draußen*. The following table shows the pronunciation of the German alphabet. The new orthography has changed the rules for using ß.

► Das Alphabet

<i>Letter</i>	<i>Pronunciation</i>
A a	ah
Ä ä	ah Umlaut
B b	bay
C c	tsay
D d	day
E e	ay

Ff	eff
Gg	gay
Hh	ha
Ii	ee
Jj	yawt
Kk	kah
Ll	ell
Mm	em
Nn	en
Oo	oh
Öö	oh Umlaut
Pp	pay
Qq	koo
Rr	air
Ss	ess
Tt	tay
Uu	oo
Üü	oo Umlaut
Vv	fow
Ww	vay
Xx	ix
Yy	ypsilon
Zz	tset

Sounds: Vowels, Consonants, and Combinations

The descriptions that follow can serve as your guide as you practice forming German sounds. The English phonetics will be shown with the stressed syllable in capital letters, for example, *Vater* (FAH-tuh), and enclosed in parentheses.

Vowels

Hearing the sounds pronounced by a native will be helpful. Also you should be aware that when English phonetics are provided, there is no precise way to indicate the pronunciation of *Ö ö* and *Ü ü*. The phonetics will show their sounds as *er* (in bold letters) and *ue* (in bold letters) respectively.

An Umlaut is the two dots that sometimes appear over the letters “a,” “o,” and “u.” They occur with no other letters. As you’ll see in the next table, the Umlaut changes the pronunciation of the vowel sound slightly.

► Pronouncing the Vowel Sounds

<i>Letter</i>	<i>Sound</i>	<i>Example</i>	<i>Pronunciation</i>	<i>Translation</i>
A a	ah as in “father”	<i>Vater</i>	VAH-tuh	father
Ä ä	ay as in “say”	<i>spät</i>	SHPATE	late
E e	ay as in “say”	<i>Weg</i>	VAYK	path
I i	ee as in “tree”	<i>ich</i>	EECH	I
O o	o as in “go”	<i>Foto</i>	FOE-toe	photo
Ö ö	e as in “her”	<i>schön</i>	SHERN	beautiful
U u	oo in “moon”	<i>tut</i>	TOOT	does
Ü ü	Pucker lips to say “oo” but say “ee.”	<i>Tür</i>	TUER	door
Y y	Pucker lips to say “oo” but say “ee.”	<i>Gymnasium</i>	guem-NAH-zee-oom	high school

Long and Short Vowels

Just as in English, there is a slight difference between long and short vowels in German. The words “long” and “short” are an accurate description of the difference between the sounds in German. Long vowels are drawn out more when pronounced. They tend to precede a single

consonant. Short vowels usually precede a double consonant and are pronounced more quickly.

► **Long Vowel Sounds Before a Single Consonant**

<i>German Word</i>	<i>Pronunciation of Vowel</i>	<i>Pronunciation of Word</i>	<i>Translation</i>
Vater	long ah	VAH-tuh	father
Käse	long ay	KAY-zeh	cheese
Keks	long ay	KAYKS	cracker
grob	long oh	GROP	rude
schön	long er	SHERN	beautiful
gut	long oo	GOOT	good
spülen	long oo Umlaut	SHPUE-len	to flush

► **Short Vowel Sounds Before a Double Consonant**

<i>German Word</i>	<i>Pronunciation of Vowel</i>	<i>Pronunciation of Word</i>	<i>Translation</i>
Halle	short uh	HUH-leh	hall
fällen	short eh	FELL-en	to chop down
Keller	short eh	KELL-uh	basement
Zoll	short aw	TSAWL	custom
können	short er	KER-nen	to be able to
Mummel	short oo	MOOM-ell	waterlily
müssen	short oo Umlaut	MUESS-en	to have to

You must look at the form of a word to determine whether the phonetic spelling “oo” is long or short: *Mutter* (MOO-tuh) (short “oo” because it precedes a double

consonant) or *tun* (TOON) (long “oo” because it precedes a single consonant).

Pronouncing the Consonants

German consonants are pronounced fairly close to how they are pronounced in English. The next table will show you how to pronounce the consonants in German words.

► Pronouncing the Consonants

<i>Letter</i>	<i>Pronunciation</i>	<i>Example</i>	<i>Pronunciation</i>	<i>Translation</i>
B b	b as in “baby”	<i>Buch</i>	BOOCH	book
C c	ts as in “bits”	<i>Cent</i>	TSENT	cent
D d	d as in “did”	<i>Doktor</i>	DAWK-tuh	doctor
F f	f as in “fit”	<i>fein</i>	FINE	fine
G g	g as in “goggles”	<i>gut</i>	GOOT	good
H h	h as in “hat”	<i>Haus</i>	HOUSE	house
J j	y as in “yard”	<i>ja</i>	YAH	yes
K k	k as in “kick”	<i>Kind</i>	KINT	child
L l	l as in “little”	<i>bellen</i>	BELL-en	to bark
M m	m as in “mama”	<i>Mutter</i>	MOO-tuh	mother
N n	n as in “noon”	<i>nicht</i>	NIHCHT	not
P p	p as in “papa”	<i>Preis</i>	PRICE	prize
Q q	kv as in “back vent”	<i>Quelle</i>	KVELL-eh	source
R r	guttural similar to French “r”	<i>rot</i>	ROT	red
S s	s as in “sis” middle of a word	<i>Meister</i>	MYE-stuh	master
Ss	z as in “zap” start of a word	<i>soll</i>	ZAWL	ought to
T t	t as in “toot”	<i>tun</i>	TOON	to do
V v	eff as in “fit”	<i>vier</i>	FEER	four
Vv	v as in “very” usually foreign	<i>Vase</i>	VAH-zeh	vase

	words			
W w	v as in "Vivian"	<i>Walter</i>	VAHL-tuh	the name Walter
X x	x as in "wax"	<i>verflixt</i>	fare-FLIKST	tricky
Z z	ts as in "bits"	<i>Zoll</i>	TSAWL	custom

There are a few things you have to look out for with certain consonants, besides what's given in the table above. Sometimes the consonants change sound, depending on their placement in a word, as you can already see from the pronunciation for the letter "s." Here are a few more rules you'll need to know about pronunciation.

When the letter "b" appears at the end of a word or prefix, it is pronounced like a "p."

► Sounding the Letter "B" at the End of a Word or Prefix

<i>German</i>	<i>Pronunciation</i>	<i>English</i>
<i>grob</i>	GROP	rude
<i>starb</i>	SHTAHRP	died
<i>ablehnen</i>	AHP-lay-nen	to reject
<i>absagen</i>	AHP-zah-gen	to cancel

When the letter "d" appears at the end of a word, it is pronounced like a "t."

► Sounding the Letter "D" at the End of a Word or Prefix

<i>German</i>	<i>Pronunciation</i>	<i>English</i>
<i>Deutschland</i>	DOITCH-lunt	Germany
<i>Freund</i>	FROINT	friend
<i>Kind</i>	KINT	child
<i>Gold</i>	GAWLT	gold
<i>Geld</i>	GELT	money
<i>Bild</i>	BILLT	picture

When the letter “g” appears at the end of a word or prefix, it is pronounced like a “k.”

► Sounding the Letter “G” at the End of a Word or Prefix

<i>German</i>	<i>Pronunciation</i>	<i>English</i>
<i>Weg</i>	VAYK	path
<i>lag</i>	LAHK	lay
<i>trug</i>	TROOK	wore
<i>weglaufen</i>	VEHK-low-fen	to run away

Letter Combinations

German pronunciation is also affected by groups of letters. Certain combinations of letters have their own sounds that you must be aware of. When two vowels in the same syllable form one speech sound, it is called a diphthong.

► Pronouncing Combined Letters and Diphthongs

<i>Letters</i>	<i>Sound</i>	<i>Example</i>	<i>Pronunciation</i>	<i>English</i>
AA	ah as in “father”	<i>Saal</i>	ZAHL	salon, hall
AU	ow as in “cow”	<i>Frau</i>	FROW	woman
EU	oi as in “toil”	<i>Heu</i>	HOI	hay
ÄU	oi as in “toil”	<i>Fräulein</i>	FROI-line	young woman
EI	i as in “high”	<i>klein</i>	KLINE	small
IE	ee as in “feet”	<i>tief</i>	TEEF	deep
EE	ay as in “say”	<i>Tee</i>	TAY	tea
ER	air as in “stair”	<i>merken</i>	MAIR-ken	to notice

<i>Letters</i>	<i>Sound</i>	<i>Example</i>	<i>Pronunciation</i>	<i>English</i>
ER	at the end of words only uh as in British "father"	<i>Messer</i>	MESS-uh	knife
OO	o as in "home"	<i>Boot</i>	BOT	boat
CH	guttural ch as in Scottish loch	<i>Koch</i>	KOCH	cook
CHS	x as in "wax"	<i>sechs</i>	ZEHKS	six
SCH	sh as in "shush"	<i>Schuh</i>	SHOO	shoe
TSCH	ch as in "church"	<i>Deutschland</i>	DOITCH-lunt	Germany
SP	shp as in "cash payment"	<i>Sport</i>	SHPORT	sport
ST	sht as in "wash tub"	<i>stark</i>	SHTAHRK	strong
TH	t as in Tom	<i>Bibliothek</i>	beeb-lee-oh-TAKE	library
PF	pf as in "top fin"	<i>Pfennig</i>	PFENN-ik	penny

Many words in German have an "h" directly following a vowel. That "h" is most often silent. For example, *gehen* (to go) is not GAY-hen. It is pronounced GAY-en.

It is also to be noted that the German *-ch* resembles the guttural Scottish *-ch*.

► Pronouncing Words with an "H" Following a Vowel

<i>German</i>	<i>Pronunciation</i>	<i>English</i>
<i>fliehen</i>	FLEE-en	to flee
<i>glühen</i>	GLUE-en	to make red hot
<i>sehen</i>	ZAY-en	to see
<i>stehen</i>	SHTAY-en	to stand

There is also no English equivalent for German *ch* (guttural like Scottish *ch*). It will be shown phonetically as *ch* (in bold letters) and should not be confused with the English version of that letter combination.

Numbers and Counting

Knowing how to use numbers in German is important. You may have already heard people counting in German, and now it's your turn to take a crack at German numbers. The first thing you'll want to learn is counting to ten.

► Numbers 0–10

<i>Arabic Numeral</i>	<i>German Number</i>	<i>Pronunciation</i>
0	<i>null</i>	NOOL
1	<i>eins</i>	AYNTZ
2	<i>zwei</i>	TSVY
3	<i>drei</i>	DRY
4	<i>vier</i>	FEAR
5	<i>fünf</i>	FUENF
6	<i>sechs</i>	ZEX
7	<i>sieben</i>	ZEE-ben
8	<i>acht</i>	AHCHT
9	<i>neun</i>	NOIN
10	<i>zehn</i>	TSAYN

You use *eins* as “one” only when counting or when the number stands alone. Once it stands in front of a noun, the *-s* is dropped and it is treated just like *ein* and *eine*, the indefinite articles. Therefore, *ein Mann* can mean either “a man” or “one man.”

Look at some sentences that use the numbers 1–10.

- *Hier wohnen zwei Amerikaner.* (Two Americans live here.)
- *Der alte Mann hat zehn Wagen.* (The old man has ten cars.)
- *Sechs Schüler fahren mit dem Bus zur Schule.* (Six pupils take the bus to school.)

The Next Ten

The next ten numbers are just as simple to use as the first ten. You'll see that 13–19 use a combination of *zehn* (10) and one of the numbers you just learned.

► Numbers 11–20

<i>Arabic Numeral</i>	<i>German Number</i>	<i>Pronunciation</i>
11	<i>elf</i>	ELF
12	<i>zwölf</i>	TSVERLF
13	<i>dreizehn</i>	DRY-tsayn
14	<i>vierzehn</i>	FEAR-tsayn
15	<i>fünfzehn</i>	FUENF-tsayn
16	<i>sechzehn</i>	ZEX-tsayn
17	<i>siebzehn</i>	ZEEP-tsayn
18	<i>achtzehn</i>	AHCHT-tsayn
19	<i>neunzehn</i>	NOIN-tsayn
20	<i>zwanzig</i>	TSVAHN-tsik

When asking the question “how much,” you say *wie viel* (vee-FEEL).

- *Wie viel ist zwei plus zwei?* (How much is two plus two?)
- *Wie viel ist sechs und zwei?* (How much is six and two?)

- *Wie viel ist neun weniger drei?* (How much is nine minus three?)

The Rest of the Numbers

The numbers from one to twenty are the basis for learning the rest of the numbers in German. To make that process easier, keep in mind a line from a children's rhyme: "Four-and-twenty blackbirds baked in a pie." As you learn the numbers above twenty, you'll see why this rhyme is fitting for putting together numbers in German. First let's look at the numbers for counting by tens to a hundred.

► Counting by Tens

<i>Arabic Numeral</i>	<i>German Number</i>	<i>Pronunciation</i>
10	<i>zehn</i>	TSAYN
20	<i>zwanzig</i>	TSVAHN-tsik
30	<i>dreißig</i>	DRY-sik
40	<i>vierzig</i>	FEAR-tsik
50	<i>fünfzig</i>	FUENF-tsik
60	<i>sechzig</i>	ZEK-tsik
70	<i>siebzig</i>	ZEEP-tsik
80	<i>achtzig</i>	AHCH-tsik
90	<i>neunzig</i>	NOIN-tsik
100	<i>hundert</i>	HOON-duhrt

Just as happened in the teens, *sechzig* has dropped the letter *-s* from *sechs*, and in *siebzig* the syllable *-en* has been omitted from *sieben*.

The hundreds are even easier to form. Note that with the hundreds, the forms of *sechs* and *sieben* do NOT drop any letters.

► **The Hundreds**

<i>Arabic Numeral</i>	<i>German Number</i>
100	<i>hundert</i>
200	<i>zweihundert</i>
300	<i>dreihundert</i>
400	<i>vierhundert</i>
500	<i>fünfhundert</i>
600	<i>sechshundert</i>
700	<i>siebenhundert</i>
800	<i>achthundert</i>
900	<i>neunhundert</i>
1,000	<i>tausend</i>

The same pattern follows in the thousands: *zweitausend*, *zehntausend*, and so on.

Here's where the blackbirds come in: With twenty through ninety, the numbers one through nine are placed *before* the rest of the number and connected by *und*:

- *einundzwanzig* (21, literally "one-and-twenty")
- *zweiundzwanzig* (22)
- *vierunddreißig* (34)
- *fünfundfünfzig* (55)
- *sechundsiebzig* (76)
- *siebenundneunzig* (97)

When using *eins*, don't forget to drop the *-s* in this formation of numbers: *einundvierzig*, *einundachtzig*.

The larger numbers in German are almost identical to English. (But be on guard: There's a notable exception to watch for.) And these larger numbers are capitalized. The other numbers are not.

► **Numbers for Billionaires**

<i>English</i>	<i>German</i>	
<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Example</i>
million	<i>eine Million</i> mee-lee-OHN	<i>zehn Millionen Dollar</i>
billion	<i>eine Milliarde</i> mee-lee-AHR-deh	<i>drei Milliarden EUR</i>
trillion	<i>eine Billion</i> bee-lee-OHN	<i>sechs Billionen Pesos</i>

Careful! If you're a billionaire, you have to be aware of how German and English differ when it comes to billions and trillions. Take another look at the table above and check out the meaning of *Milliarde* and *Billion*.

German in English, English in German

German and English share many words in common. These are called cognates and are found in most European languages. Here are just a few German words you will recognize immediately.

► **Words You'll Recognize**

<i>German</i>	<i>Pronunciation</i>
<i>abstraktiv</i>	ahb-strahk-TEEF
<i>die Adresse</i>	DEE ah-DRESS-eh
<i>aktiv</i>	ahk-TEEF
<i>der Artist</i>	DAIR ahr-TEEST
<i>das Auto</i>	DUSS OW-toh
<i>das Baby</i>	DUSS BAY-bee
<i>der Boss</i>	DAIR BAWSS
<i>die Chance</i>	DEE SHAWN-tseh
<i>der Club</i>	DAIR KLOOP
<i>der Computer</i>	DAIR kawm-PYOO-tuh
<i>cool</i>	KOOL

<i>der Dealer</i>	DAIR DEE-leh
<i>der Diplomat</i>	DAIR dee-ploh-MAHT
<i>fair</i>	FARE
<i>der Film</i>	DAIR FILM
<i>das Hotel</i>	DUSS hoh-TELL
<i>der Job</i>	DAIR JAWP
<i>das Land</i>	DUSS LUNT
<i>der Manager</i>	DAIR MEH-neh-juh
<i>der Name</i>	DAIR NAH-meh
<i>national</i>	nah-tsee-oh-NAHL
<i>negativ</i>	nay-guh-TEEF
<i>offensiv</i>	aw-fen-SEEF
<i>der Optimist</i>	DAIR ohp-tee-MEEST
<i>der Pessimist</i>	DAIR pess-ee-MEEST
<i>die Physik</i>	DEE fueh-ZEEK
<i>der Pilot</i>	DAIR pee-LOHT
<i>plus</i>	PLOOS
<i>positiv</i>	poh-zee-TEEF
<i>das Problem</i>	DUSS proh-BLAME
<i>der Professor</i>	DAIR pro-FESS-uh
<i>relativ</i>	ray-luh-TEEF
<i>das Restaurant</i>	DUSS ress-taw-RONG
<i>das Shopping</i>	DUSS SHAW-peeng
<i>die Specials</i>	DEE SPEH-shulls
<i>das System</i>	DUSS zuess-TAME
<i>der Terrorist</i>	DAIR tare-ohr-REEST
<i>die Tradition</i>	DEE trah-dee-tsee-OWN

Cognates in Context

There are so many shortcuts to learning new German words. Following are a few sentences using some words that will probably look familiar to you. Don't worry about understanding the sentence structure yet—this will get

you used to looking at written German. Can you pick out the meanings of any of the words used?

- *Andreas gewinnt einen Preis.* (Andreas wins a prize.)
- *Meine Familie ist sehr klein.* (My family is very little.)
- *Petra spielt Gitarre.* (Petra plays guitar.)
- *Wir lieben die Natur.* (We love nature.)
- *Morgen gehen wir in die Oper.* (Tomorrow we're going to the opera.)
- *Das ist perfekt!* (That's perfect!)
- *Das ist eine dumme Theorie!* (That's a dumb theory!)
- *Er braucht Salz und Pfeffer.* (He needs salt and pepper.)
- *Deine Schwester ist sehr attraktiv.* (Your sister is very attractive.)
- *Warum bist du so nervös?* (Why are you so nervous?)
- *Ich trinke keinen Kaffee.* (I don't drink coffee.)
- *Jazz ist sehr populär.* (Jazz is very popular.)

Speak! Speak! Speak!

No language—not German, not English, not Japanese—evolved from a written form. Writing came later. Speech came first. Language is first and foremost a spoken form. And to know German well, you have to be able to speak it. Translating words in your mind isn't good enough. You have to pronounce words and phrases and sentences out loud in order to learn German speech. Here's the basic

rule, and it's quite simple: In order to learn to speak German, you have to practice speaking German.

It's like playing the piano. Let's say you want to be a pianist. So you get some sheet music and begin studying it. You look at all the notes and memorize what they're called: do, re, mi, fa, sol, la, ti, do. You study the phrasing and key signatures. But you don't touch a single key on the piano. After six months of study, when you finally lay your hands on the keyboard, you will still not be a pianist. Because it doesn't work that way.

And that's true with language acquisition as well. In order to learn to speak German, you have to practice speaking German. Follow that rule, and in time you will be speaking German with ease.

02 / Building Your Vocabulary

Names and Titles

Just like English speakers, Germans address one another with first names on an informal basis and with a title and last name on a formal basis. The list of first and last names that follows contains many names already familiar to you.

<i>Andreas</i> (ahn-DRAY-us)	<i>Bauer</i> (BOW-uh)
<i>Brandt</i> (BRAHNT)	<i>Brenner</i> (BRENN-uh)
<i>Gerhardt</i> (GAIR-hart)	<i>Gretchen</i> (GRATE-chen)
<i>Hans</i> (HAHNS)	<i>Herbert</i> (HAIR-bayrt)
<i>Müller</i> (MUEL-luh)	<i>Schmidt</i> (SHMITT)

German has shortened first names or nicknames just as English does. In America, Robert can be called Bob, and John can be called Jack. Susie is just the shortened version of Susanne.

In Germany, the same thing happens. *Johann* is known to his friends as *Hans*. *Margarethe* is *Gretchen* or *Gretel*. *Eduard* becomes *Edu*. *Geli* comes from *Angelika*. And

sometimes a double first name borrows a syllable from each name to form a nickname: *Lieselotte* becomes *Lilo*.

You should be aware of such shortened names or nicknames, but don't try using them until you have more experience with the language. Although the English name Richard is also the German name *Richard*, you cannot refer to *Richard* as *Dick*. The German word *dick* means "fat"!

When using a last name, you should use the appropriate title of the person to whom you are speaking.

► Titles in German Names

<i>German</i>	<i>Pronunciation</i>	<i>English Equivalent</i>
<i>Herr</i>	HAIR	mister
<i>Frau</i>	FROW	Ms.
<i>Doktor</i>	DAWK-tuh	(academic) doctor
<i>Professor</i>	proh-FESS-uh	professor

Germany went through something of a women's liberation movement about the same time the United States did. There were various outcomes of that movement, and one of them was a significant change in the language.

That change turned the word *Fräulein* into a taboo word. It's a diminutive form of *Frau* that actually means "little lady" or "little woman." It once was used as the title "Miss" to address a young or unmarried woman. Just as our word "Miss" has fallen out of grace, so, too, has the word *Fräulein* become a cultural no-no.

Nowadays, you should use *Frau* with all women—married, single, young, and old. As a foreigner, you'll be forgiven if you forget and say *Fräulein*, but it's only polite to strive to use the correct form.

Greetings and Goodbye's

To say “hello” to someone, you use the phrase *Guten Tag* (GOO-ten TUCK). For example, when saying hello to *Andreas*, you would say, “*Guten Tag, Andreas.*” *Guten Tag* literally means “good day.” You have probably heard this common German greeting before. But it’s typically used to greet someone only during the afternoon. At other times of the day you have to say something else.

In the morning hours you should say *Guten Morgen* (MAWR-gen), which means “good morning.” In the afternoon you say *Guten Tag*. In the evening use *Guten Abend* (AH-bent), which means “good evening.” And late at night you say *Gute Nacht* (NAHCHT), or “good night,” which, just like in English, is a way of saying “good-bye.”

Did you know that Germans shake hands when they greet someone or say good-bye to someone? You may think that sounds just like what Americans do, and to some extent that’s true. But Germans consider it almost a rule.

Now for the farewell. Most English speakers already know that Germans say good-bye with the phrase *auf Wiedersehen* (OWF VEE-duh-zane). But it really doesn’t mean “good-bye.” A closer translation is “till I see you again.”

But there is another form of good-bye that is very commonly used, although mostly with good friends. It is very casual. It comes from a long time past when it was fashionable to use the French word when bidding farewell to friends: *adieu*. In the course of time, and with people from all over the German-speaking world pronouncing and mispronouncing the word, it somehow got an *s* attached to it. Then it lost its first syllable. And in time it became simply *Tschüs* (CHUESS).

You can't go wrong by saying *auf Wiedersehen*, but it's fun using *Tschüs* when the occasion allows for it: in casual circumstances or saying good-bye to friends.

When you say that someone is going home, use the following phrase:

- *Andreas geht jetzt nach Hause.* (Andreas is going home now.)

Any name can be substituted for *Andreas*. And when someone is going home, it's an appropriate time to wish him or her *auf Wiedersehen* or *Tschüs*.

If you're speaking on the phone, you don't use *auf Wiedersehen* to say good-bye. That's only for when you see someone face-to-face. When saying good-bye on the phone, use *auf Wiederhören* (OWF VEE-duh-her-ren). It means something like "till I hear your voice again."

How Are You?

When asking how someone is doing, you first have to decide whether you're on a casual or formal basis with the person. Usually, if you're using someone's first name, you have a casual or informal relationship with that person. If you're using a title and last name, you have a formal relationship with that person.

Casual: "How are you?" "*Wie geht's, Andreas?*"
(VEE GATES)

Formal: "How are you?" "*Wie geht es Ihnen, Herr Braun?*" (VEE GATE ESS EE-nen)

Countries and Nationalities

Learning the names of countries, nationalities, and languages is a quick way to add an abundance of new words to your vocabulary. The following table shows the names of several countries, the names for citizens (male and female, respectively) of those countries, and the language spoken there. Notice how similar many of the words are to English words.

► Countries, Nationalities, and Languages

Das Land (country)	Die Nationalität (nationality)	Die Sprache (language)
Belgien (Belgium)	der Belgier, die Belgierin	Französisch (French)
China	der Chinese, die Chinesin	Chinesisch
Deutschland	der Deutsche, die Deutsche	Deutsch
England	der Engländer, die Engländerin	Englisch
Frankreich (France)	der Franzose, die Französin	Französisch
Italien	der Italiener, die Italienerin	Italienisch
Japan	der Japaner, die Japanerin	Japanisch
Niederlande (The Netherlands)	der Holländer, die Holländerin	Holländisch
Österreich (Austria)	der Österreicher, die Österreicherin	Deutsch
Russland	der Russe, die Russin	Russisch
Schweden (Sweden)	der Schwede, die Schwedin	Schwedisch
die Schweiz (Switzerland)	der Schweizer, die Schweizerin	Deutsch Französisch, Italienisch
Spanien (Spain)	der Spanier, die Spanierin	Spanisch

Das Land (country) <i>die Türkei</i>	Die Nationalität (nationality) <i>der Türke, die Türkin</i>	Die Sprache (language) <i>Türkisch</i>
<i>die USA (OO ESS AH)</i> <i>or die Vereinigten</i> <i>Staaten von Amerika</i> (The United States [of America])	<i>der Amerikaner, die</i> <i>Amerikanerin</i>	<i>Englisch</i>

Some examples of how these words can be used in sentences are given below.

- *Sie kommen aus Deutschland.* They come from Germany.
- *Sie sind Deutsche.* They are Germans.
- *Sie sprechen Deutsch.* They speak German.
- *Verstehen Sie Deutsch?* Do you understand German?
- *Sind Sie Amerikaner? Nein, ich bin Deutscher.* Are you an American? No, I am German.
- *Er ist in Österreich.* He is in Austria.
- *Ich komme aus den Vereinigten Staaten.* I come from the United States.

When describing a nationality, you do not use the definite article: *Ich bin Amerikaner. Sie sind Spanierin.*

Days and Dates

The days of the week are all masculine nouns because they are compound words formed with the word *der Tag* (except for the word for Wednesday).

► Days of the Week

German	English
<i>Sonntag</i>	Sunday
<i>Montag</i>	Monday
<i>Dienstag</i>	Tuesday
<i>Mittwoch</i>	Wednesday
<i>Donnerstag</i>	Thursday
<i>Freitag</i>	Friday
<i>Sonnabend/Samstag</i>	Saturday

If you ask *Was ist heute?* (What is today?), the answer is one of the days of the week.

- *Was ist heute? Heute ist Montag.*
- *Was ist heute? Heute ist Freitag.*
- *Ist heute Montag oder Dienstag? Heute ist Montag.**
- *Ist heute Mittwoch oder Donnerstag? Heute ist Donnerstag.**

**oder = or*

The days of the week are used in an adverbial phrase when preceded by the preposition *am* (contraction of *an dem*). Then they tell “when” something occurs.

- *Wann ist das Konzert (concert)? Das Konzert ist am Montag.*
- *Wann ist die Party? Die Party ist am Sonnabend.*
- *Wann kommt Herr Meyer? Herr Meyer kommt am Freitag.**
- *Wann gehst du nach Hause? Ich gehe am Donnerstag nach Hause.**

**kommt = comes; gehst, gehe = go*

The Seasons of the Year

The German words for the seasons of the year are partially similar to the English words.

► Seasons of the Year

<i>German</i>	<i>English</i>
<i>Sommer</i>	summer
<i>Herbst</i>	fall
<i>Winter</i>	winter
<i>Frühling</i>	spring

And, like English, they are used very frequently with the preposition *in*. But in German, you have to say “in the” season and use the contraction *im*: *im Sommer, im Herbst, im Winter, im Frühling*.

If you begin a sentence with one of the seasons, remember to place the verb before the subject: *Im Winter sind wir in Florida*.

Glückwunsch

It’s a mouthful, but that’s how you say “happy birthday” in German. Naturally, it will be helpful to know the German months if you’re going to talk about birthdays.

German months are very similar to their English counterparts.

► Months of the Year

<i>German</i>	<i>English</i>
<i>Januar</i>	January
<i>Februar</i>	February
<i>März</i>	March
<i>April</i>	April

German	English
Mai	May
Juni	June
Juli	July
August	August
September	September
Oktober	October
November	November
Dezember	December

They are used in exactly the same way as the English months: in January (*im Januar*), in May (*im Mai*), in September (*im September*). Notice, however, that German uses *im* (the contraction of *in dem*) in place of *in*.

To tell what month you were born in, just say: *Ich bin im Februar geboren.* (I was born in February.) *Ich bin im Juni geboren.* (I was born in June.) You can change the verb *sein* (to be) appropriately to say what month others were born in: *Vater ist im Oktober geboren.* (Father was born in October.) *Die Zwillinge sind im März geboren.* (The twins were born in March.) *Wann bist du geboren?* (When were you born?)

And if you want to say that something occurred in a certain year, you say *im Jahre*: *im Jahre 1776*, *im Jahre 2002*. *Ich bin im Jahre 1985 geboren.* (I was born in 1985.)

German years are said like this: 1985 = *neunzehnhundertfünfundachtzig*.

And if you want to tell in what month your birthday is, you say, *Ich habe im April Geburtstag.* (I have a birthday in April.) *Er hat im Juli Geburtstag.* (He has a birthday in July.)

Telling Time

The term *der Morgen* is a noun that means “morning.” It is used in many expressions on telling time. Here are some important words to know to talk about time of day:

- *der Abend* (evening)
- *der Morgen* (morning)
- *die Nacht* (night)
- *der Tag* (day)

► The Times of Day in German

<i>German Expression</i>	<i>English Expression</i>
<i>gestern Abend</i>	yesterday evening
<i>gestern Morgen</i>	yesterday morning
<i>gestern Nachmittag</i>	yesterday afternoon
<i>gestern Nacht</i>	last night
<i>heute Abend</i>	this evening
<i>heute Morgen</i>	this morning
<i>heute Nachmittag</i>	this afternoon
<i>heute Nacht</i>	tonight
<i>morgen Abend</i>	tomorrow evening
<i>morgen früh</i>	tomorrow morning
<i>morgen Nachmittag</i>	tomorrow afternoon
<i>morgen Nacht</i>	tomorrow night
<i>übermorgen</i>	the day after tomorrow
<i>vorgestern</i>	the day before yesterday

*Don't confuse *Morgen*, the noun that means “morning,” with *morgen*, the adverb that means “tomorrow.”

Hours and Minutes

What if you need to be more specific than just “yesterday evening” or “this afternoon”? You'll need to use the clock to indicate a specific time. The word *die Uhr*

means “the clock.” But the same word is placed after time to mean “o’clock.” There are a few kinds of clocks and watches in German, and they typically end with *Uhr* (note the exception in this list):

- *die Armbanduhr* (wristwatch)
- *die Taschenuhr* (pocket watch)
- *die Wanduhr* (wall clock)
- *der Wecker* (the alarm clock)

When time is on the hour, you merely say the number and follow it by *Uhr*: *ein Uhr* (one o’clock), *zwei Uhr* (two o’clock), *drei Uhr* (three o’clock), *sieben Uhr* (seven o’clock), *zwölf Uhr* (twelve o’clock), *dreizehn Uhr* (thirteen o’clock, or one o’clock p.m.), *achtzehn Uhr* (six o’clock p.m.), *zwanzig Uhr* (eight o’clock p.m.), *einundzwanzig Uhr* (nine o’clock p.m.), *zweiundzwanzig Uhr* (ten o’clock p.m.), *dreiundzwanzig Uhr* (eleven o’clock p.m.), *vierundzwanzig Uhr* (twelve midnight).

The times that occur between the top of the hour and the half hour all come *nach* (after):

- 1:10 *zehn nach eins* (ten past one)
- 4:20 *zwanzig nach vier* (twenty past four)
- 6:15 *Viertel nach sechs* (a quarter past six)

If the time is thirty minutes after the hour, use the word *halb* (half) and the *next* hour. Think of it as being “halfway” to the next hour.

- 2:30 *halb drei* (two-thirty)
- 9:30 *halb zehn* (nine-thirty)

And if the times occur between the half hour and the three-quarter hour, use *nach* followed by the expression for the half hour:

- 3:35 *fünf Minuten nach halb vier* (five minutes past three-thirty, three thirty-five)
 7:40 *zehn Minuten nach halb acht* (ten minutes past seven-thirty, six forty)

Germans often leave out the word *Minuten*: *zehn nach halb acht* (ten past seven-thirty, six forty).

From a quarter before the hour to the top of the next hour, use *vor* (before):

- 12:45 *Viertel vor eins* (a quarter to one)
 4:50 *zehn Minuten vor fünf / zehn vor fünf* (ten to five)

Asking for the Time

To ask what time it is, use one of these expressions: *Wieviel Uhr ist es?* (What time is it?) or *Wie spät ist es?* (How late is it?). Some possible responses are:

- *Es ist halb zehn.* (It's nine-thirty.)
- *Es ist neunzehn Uhr.* (It's seven o'clock p.m.)
- *Es ist Viertel vor sieben.* (It's a quarter until seven.)
- *Es ist zwei Uhr.* (It's two o'clock.)

To ask "at" what time something occurs, precede the time by the preposition *um*. Note the use of *um* in these questions and answers.

► Using *um* When Telling Time

Question	Answer
<i>Um wie viel Uhr kommt der Zug?</i> (At what time does the train come?)	<i>Der Zug kommt um vierzehn Uhr.</i> (The train comes at two o'clock p.m.)
<i>Um wie viel Uhr ist die Prüfung?</i> (At what time is the exam?)	<i>Die Prüfung ist um halb neun.</i> (The exam is at eight-thirty.)
<i>Um wie viel Uhr gehen Sie nach Hause?</i> (At what time are you going home?)	<i>Ich gehe um elf Uhr nach Hause.</i> (I am going home at eleven o'clock.)

And just like English, German has special words for “noon” and “midnight”: *Mittag* (literally: “midday”) and *Mitternacht*. They are used in place of twelve o’clock:

- *Es ist jetzt zwölf Uhr.* (It is now twelve o’clock.)
- *Es ist jetzt Mittag.* (It is now noon.)
- *Er kommt um Mitternacht.* (He comes at midnight.)

Family Members

Did you know that German families have specialized words for family members just like American families do? You don’t want to use the wrong word for a specific relationship. It would be just as much of a mistake in Germany as it would be in the United States to introduce your wife’s mother as your “grandmother” instead of as your “mother-in-law.”

So here's a German family tree. You'll see that it follows the same lines as an American family tree.

► Members of a German Family

<i>German</i>	<i>English</i>
<i>der Urgroßvater</i>	great-grandfather
<i>die Urgroßmutter</i>	great-grandmother
<i>der Großvater</i>	grandfather
<i>der Opa</i>	grandpa
<i>die Großmutter</i>	grandmother
<i>die Oma</i>	grandma
<i>der Vater</i>	father
<i>der Vati</i>	dad, daddy
<i>die Mutter</i>	mother
<i>die Mutti</i>	mom, mommy
<i>der Stiefvater</i>	stepfather
<i>die Stiefmutter</i>	stepmother
<i>der Ehemann or Mann</i>	husband
<i>die Ehefrau or Frau</i>	wife
<i>der Sohn</i>	son
<i>die Tochter</i>	daughter
<i>der Stiefsohn</i>	stepson
<i>die Stieftochter</i>	stepdaughter
<i>der Stiefbruder</i>	stepbrother
<i>die Stiefschwester</i>	stepsister
<i>der Bruder</i>	brother
<i>die Schwester</i>	sister
<i>die Geschwister</i>	brothers and sisters
<i>der Enkel</i>	grandson
<i>die Enkelin</i>	granddaughter
<i>der Vetter (also: Cousin)</i>	male cousin
<i>die Kusine (also: Cousine)</i>	female cousin

<i>der Neffe</i>	nephew
<i>die Nichte</i>	niece
<i>der Onkel</i>	uncle
<i>German</i>	<i>English</i>
<i>die Tante</i>	aunt
<i>der Schwiegervater</i>	father-in-law
<i>die Schwiegermutter</i>	mother-in-law
<i>der Schwiegersohn</i>	son-in-law
<i>die Schwiegertochter</i>	daughter-in-law
<i>der Schwager</i>	brother-in-law
<i>die Schwägerin</i>	sister-in-law
<i>der Verlobte</i>	fiancé
<i>die Verlobte</i>	fiancée
<i>die Großeltern</i>	grandparents
<i>die Eltern</i>	parents
<i>die Schwiegereltern</i>	in-laws
<i>die Verwandten</i>	relatives

Basic Food and Eating Terms

If you're visiting Germany or another German-speaking country, you're going to have to eat eventually. You need some information for getting around a restaurant and its menu.

First, you have to identify what's a restaurant and what isn't. There are many words that tell you that you've found an eatery:

► Places to Eat

<i>German</i>	<i>English</i>
<i>der Biergarten</i>	beer garden
<i>die Bierhalle</i>	beer hall
<i>das Café</i>	café

<i>das Gasthaus</i>	inn, tavern
<i>der Gasthof</i>	inn, tavern
<i>die Gaststätte</i>	inn, tavern
<i>German</i>	<i>English</i>
<i>die Imbisshalle</i>	snackbar
<i>die Konditorei</i>	pastry shop that serves snacks and beverages
<i>die Mensa</i>	cafeteria in a university
<i>die Raststätte</i>	roadside café
<i>der Ratskeller</i>	restaurant in the cellar of the town hall
<i>das Restaurant</i>	restaurant
<i>der Schnellimbiss</i>	snackbar
<i>die Weinstube</i>	wine café, serving light food

If you're looking for just a bite to eat, look for a name with *Café* or *Gaststätte* in it. For a full meal, you'll probably want a *Restaurant* or *Ratskeller*.

Der Ratskeller is usually found in the cellar of the town hall, called *das Rathaus*. You can get full meals there and a wide selection of wines.

Just as in the United States, ethnic food is very popular in Germany. There are many American-style fast-food places, including some that are actually transplants from the United States: McDonald's, Burger King, KFC, and so on.

Restaurant names vary as much in Germany as here. The owner's name might identify the place. Or a city. Or an animal. Or some trendy phrase. When you see a name like *Café Madrid*, it's not hard to figure out where the name came from. But it's common to begin the name of an inn or other eating establishment with *zu*. The preposition *zu*, if you look it up in a dictionary, basically means "to." But when it's used with the name of an inn, you should think of it as meaning *The Inn of . . .*: *Zum roten*

Löwen (The Inn of the Red Lion), *Zur alten Mühle* (The Old Mill Inn).

You can easily learn the German names of food, beverages, and utensils. Some of the primary ones are given below.

► **Food**

<i>German</i>	<i>English Foods</i>
<i>die Birne</i>	pear
<i>die Bratwurst</i>	roasted sausage
<i>der Brokkoli</i>	broccoli
<i>die Erbsen</i>	peas
<i>die Erdbeeren</i>	strawberries
<i>der Fisch</i>	fish
<i>das Hähnchen</i>	chicken
<i>die Kartoffeln</i>	potatoes
<i>der Käse</i>	cheese
<i>der Kohl</i>	cabbage
<i>die Möhren</i>	carrots
<i>das Obst</i>	fruit
<i>die Pilze</i>	mushrooms
<i>der Reis</i>	rice
<i>das Rindfleisch</i>	beef
<i>das Sauerkraut</i>	sauerkraut
<i>der Schinken</i>	ham
<i>das Schweinefleisch</i>	pork
<i>der Speck</i>	bacon
<i>der Spinat</i>	spinach
<i>die Zwiebeln</i>	onions

► Beverages

<i>German</i>	<i>English</i>
<i>das Bier</i>	beer
<i>der Kaffee</i>	coffee
<i>die Milch</i>	milk
<i>das Pils</i>	lager beer
<i>der Rotwein, Weißwein</i>	red wine, white wine
<i>der Tee</i>	tea
<i>das Wasser</i>	water
<i>der Wein</i>	wine

► Utensils

<i>German</i>	<i>English</i>
<i>die Flasche</i>	bottle
<i>die Gabel</i>	fork
<i>das Glas</i>	glass
<i>der Löffel</i>	spoon
<i>das Messer</i>	knife
<i>die Serviette</i>	napkin
<i>der Suppenteller</i>	soup bowl (plate)
<i>die Tasse</i>	cup
<i>der Teller</i>	plate

03 / Grammar

Intro to Grammar

English and German are Germanic languages and are derived from the same Indo-European source. It is that legacy of language that still exists in modern English that makes learning German a relatively easy task.

Understanding Gender

In the English language, “gender” refers to the sex of living things: Males are of the masculine gender and females are of the feminine gender. Inanimate objects are called neuter. German is a bit different.

The German Concept of Gender:

In general, German looks at words that represent males as masculine and words that represent females as feminine. But gender is not entirely based on sex. It is related to how a word is formed, rather than the sexual gender involved.

Der is used frequently with males: *der Vater*, *der Professor*, *der Student*. *Die* is used frequently with females: *die Mutter*, *die Frau*, *die Tante* (aunt). But that's where it ends, because the three genders, denoted by the articles *der*, *die*, and *das*, depend more on word formation than anything else to determine what is masculine, feminine, or neuter.

English speakers must clear their minds of the idea that gender is strictly sexual and animate or inanimate. When you speak German, you must accept the idea that masculine nouns, which use *der* as their definite article, do not necessarily refer to males. Likewise, feminine nouns, which use *die* as their definite article, do not always refer to females. And neuter nouns, which use *das* as their definite article, do not refer exclusively to inanimate objects.

Person, Place, or Thing?

In many German language textbooks, students are told that they must simply memorize the gender of each noun. That's not very efficient, and that's certainly not what Germans do. As they grow up with their language, German children hear the patterns of words that require a certain gender and gradually conform to them. Along the way, they memorize the exceptions. Identifying the patterns is very helpful in determining gender, and it eliminates the need for a great deal of memorization.

There are some broad rules for determining which gender a noun is. And it should be admitted early that in many cases there will be exceptions to the rules. But the rules are helpful guideposts for making intelligent choices when using *der*, *die*, or *das*.

Here are four basic categories of masculine nouns. (There are more than just four, but these are a good starting point.) Many—but not all—words that end in *-er*, *-el*, or *-en* tend to be masculine. In addition, cognates that refer to men also tend to be masculine. Take a look at some examples.

► Determining the Gender of Masculine Nouns

<i>Nouns Ending</i>	<i>Nouns Ending</i>	<i>Nouns Ending</i>	
<i>in -er</i>	<i>in -el</i>	<i>in -en</i>	<i>Cognates</i>
<i>der Vater</i>	<i>der Onkel</i> (uncle)	<i>der Laden</i> (store, shop)	<i>der Professor</i>
<i>der Lehrer</i> (teacher)	<i>der Löffel</i> (spoon)	<i>der Wagen</i> (car)	<i>der Diplomat</i>
<i>der Keller</i> (cellar)	<i>der Sattel</i> (saddle)	<i>der Magen</i> (stomach)	<i>der Tourist</i>

Notice that half of the words listed above are inanimate objects. But all are masculine.

Additionally, nouns ending in *-ling* are always masculine.

- *der Frühling* (spring)
- *der Neuling* (novice, beginner)
- *der Sperling* (sparrow)

Nouns ending in *-ig* and *-ich* are masculine.

- *der König* (king)
- *der Teppich* (rug, carpet)

Many words of one syllable that end in a consonant are masculine.

- *der Arzt* (doctor)
- *der Brief* (letter)
- *der Stuhl* (chair)
- *der Bus* (bus)
- *der Tag* (day)
- *der Film* (film)
- *der Tisch* (table)
- *der Freund* (male friend)
- *der Wein* (wine)
- *der Markt* (market)
- *der Zug* (train)
- *der Park* (park)
- *der Platz* (market square, place, theater seat)

The Feminine Nouns

There are categories of feminine nouns that will help you determine the feminine gender. Words that refer exclusively to women are usually (but not always) feminine. Words that refer to women and inanimate objects ending in *-e* tend to be feminine. Words ending in *-in* are feminine. Words that end in *-ung* are feminine. Look at these examples:

► Determining the Gender of Feminine Nouns

<i>Words Referring to Women</i>	<i>Words Ending in -e</i>	<i>Words Ending in -in</i>	<i>Words Ending in -ung</i>
<i>die Mutter</i>	<i>die Tante</i>	<i>die Studentin</i>	<i>die Prüfung</i> (test)
<i>die Schwester</i> (sister)	<i>die Tasse</i> (cup)	<i>die Lehrerin</i> (female teacher)	<i>die Übung</i> (exercise)
<i>die Frau</i>	<i>die Schule</i> (school)	<i>die Freundin</i> (girlfriend)	<i>die Achtung</i> (attention)

Notice how many of these words are inanimate objects. Yet they are all feminine.

Feminine nouns ending in *-in* usually have a masculine counterpart that does not have that ending. The two forms distinguish males and females having the same role. Here are some examples:

► Gendered Roles

The Male Role

der Arzt (physician)

der Freund (boyfriend)

der Künstler (artist)

der Sänger (singer)

der Schüler (pupil)

The Female Role

die Ärztin (physician)

die Freundin (girlfriend)

die Künstlerin (artist)

die Sängerin (singer)

die Schülerin (pupil)

Additionally, nouns ending in *-schaft* are always feminine.

- *die Botschaft* (message, embassy)
- *die Wirtschaft* (economy)
- *die Freundschaft* (friendship)
- *die Wissenschaft* (science)
- *die Landschaft* (landscape)

Words that end in *-ei* are feminine:

- *die Bäckerei* (bakery)
- *die Konditorei* (confectioner)
- *die Metzgerei* (butcher's shop)

Words that end in *-tät* are feminine:

- *die Qualität* (quality)
- *die Universität* (university)

Nouns ending in *-heit*, *-keit*, and *-ie* are always feminine:

- *die Einsamkeit* (loneliness)
- *die Gesundheit* (health)
- *die Poesie* (poetry)

Both German and English have inherited a large number of words that end in *-tion*. In German they are always feminine, and they usually have the same meaning as their English counterpart. But the German pronunciation of *-tion* is different from English: *Position* (poh-zee-tsee-OHN), *Situation* (zit-oo-ah-tsee-OHN). Look at the following words:

- *die Formation*
- *die Information*
- *die Inspektion*
- *die Koalition*
- *die Konstitution*
- *die Position*
- *die Reservation*
- *die Revolution*
- *die Situation*
- *die Ventilation*
- *die Vibration*

The Neuter Nouns

Let's start with a reminder: Not all inanimate nouns in German are neuter (*das*). There are patterns to watch for when deciding whether a noun is neuter. Diminutives are always neuter. They end either in *-chen* or *-lein*. Words that end in *-um* or *-ium* are always neuter. Words that

begin with the prefix *Ge-* tend to be neuter. Look at these examples:

► Neuter Nouns

Diminutive with

–chen or –lein

Ending –um or –ium

Prefix Ge–

das Mädchen

(girl)

das Datum

(date)

das Gemüse

(vegetables)

das Fräulein

(young lady)

das Studium

(study)

das Getreide

(grain)

das Brötchen

(bread roll)

das Gymnasium

(prep school)

das Gespenst

(ghost)

Note that some of these neuter words refer to people rather than to inanimate objects.

Another category of neuter nouns is infinitives that are used as nouns. These are always neuter.

- *das Einkommen* (income)
- *das Singen* (singing)
- *das Schreiben* (writing)
- *das Essen* (food)
- *das Tanzen* (dancing)

Certain categories of words tend to be of one gender. Take note of how the following words are related and of their gender.

► A Category of Words That Share the Same Gender—

Das Metall (Metal)

English

aluminum

brass

German

das Aluminium

das Messing

<i>English</i>	<i>German</i>
gold	<i>das Gold</i>
iron	<i>das Eisen</i>
lead	<i>das Blei</i>
silver	<i>das Silber</i>
tin	<i>das Zinn</i>

German wouldn't be German without an exception. The metals have one, too: *der Stahl* (steel).

Exceptions to the Gender Patterns

Since there are exceptions in the various patterns, here are just a few to consider:

- *das Bett* (bed)
- *das Bier* (beer)
- *das Brot* (bread)
- *die Fabel* (fable)
- *das Fahrrad* (bike)
- *das Flugzeug* (airplane)
- *der Franzose* (Frenchman)
- *der Geschmack* (taste)
- *das Glas* (glass)
- *das Kind* (child)
- *das Konzert* (concert)
- *der Junge* (boy)
- *die Schwester* (sister)
- *die Tochter* (daughter)
- *das Wasser* (water)
- *das Wetter* (weather)
- *das Wochenende* (weekend)
- *die Wurst* (sausage)

You've learned that many words that end in *-e* are feminine: *die Dame* (lady), *die Tasse* (cup), *die Lampe* (lamp), and so on. But there are several masculine words that end in *-e*, too. Memorize these so you can remember that they don't follow the rule.

► Masculine Nouns Ending in *-e*

<i>German Noun</i>	<i>English Meaning</i>
<i>der Alte</i>	old man
<i>der Buchstabe</i>	letter (of the alphabet)
<i>der Franzose</i>	Frenchman
<i>der Hase</i>	hare
<i>der Junge</i>	boy
<i>der Knabe</i>	boy, lad
<i>der Löwe</i>	lion
<i>der Matrose</i>	sailor
<i>der Name</i>	name
<i>der Neffe</i>	nephew
<i>der Ochse</i>	ox

Exceptions to the rules, like those words listed above, will always exist. With these words, there is no getting around memorizing their gender when you learn the noun.

In German, the articles and indefinite articles that you learned here are called the nominative case. This simply means that these nouns are acting as the subjects of sentences.

Articles Are Important

Just like English, German has definite and indefinite articles. Definite articles refer to specific persons or things (the man, the woman, the child), and indefinite articles

refer to unspecific persons or things (a man, a woman, a child).

The articles you have learned so far are the definite articles. Let's review them.

► Definite Articles and Gender

<i>Masculine</i>	<i>Feminine</i>	<i>Neuter</i>	<i>English Meaning</i>
<i>der</i>	<i>die</i>	<i>das</i>	the

The gender patterns that you encountered earlier in this chapter work the same with indefinite articles. But the good news is that you only have to keep your eye on feminine nouns when choosing the indefinite article. Masculine and neuter nouns have the same form: *ein*. The feminine indefinite article is *eine*.

► Indefinite Articles and Gender

<i>Masculine</i>	<i>Feminine</i>	<i>Neuter</i>	<i>English Meaning</i>
<i>ein</i>	<i>eine</i>	<i>ein</i>	a / an

Look at these examples to see how they relate to the definite articles:

► Comparing the Indefinite and Definite Articles

Masculine Nouns	Feminine Nouns	Neuter Nouns
<i>der Mann / ein Mann</i>	<i>die Frau / eine Frau</i>	<i>das Kind / ein Kind</i>
<i>der Laden / ein Laden</i>	<i>die Klasse / eine Klasse</i>	<i>das Studium / ein Studium</i>
<i>der Onkel / ein Onkel</i>	<i>die Freundin / eine Freundin</i>	<i>das Geschenk / ein Geschenk</i>

Making Nouns Plural

So you understand articles and that all nouns have gender. But what about when there are more than one of something? In this section you'll learn how to talk about men, women, cars, books, and anything else you can have two or more of, plus you'll learn how to use pronouns so you don't have to keep repeating yourself.

Several German nouns are identical in both the singular and plural. You can tell when the noun is plural only by the verb used with it or by a number preceding it. Look at these examples:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|
| ■ <i>ein Brunnen ist</i> . . . | a well is . . . |
| ■ <i>zehn Brunnen sind</i> . . . | ten wells are . . . |
| ■ <i>ein Mädchen ist</i> . . . | a girl is . . . |
| ■ <i>zehn Mädchen sind</i> . . . | ten girls are . . . |
| ■ <i>ein Schauspieler ist</i> . . . | an actor is . . . |
| ■ <i>zehn Schauspieler sind</i> . . . | ten actors are . . . |

When a noun is plural, it uses *die* as its definite article, no matter what its gender. Very few German nouns form their plural by adding an *-s*, though a few do follow that pattern. See the following table for some examples.

► Making a Noun Plural by Adding an *-s*

<i>Singular Noun</i>	<i>Plural Noun</i>
<i>der Park</i> (park)	<i>die Parks</i> (parks)
<i>das Foto</i> (photo)	<i>die Fotos</i> (photos)
<i>die Kamera</i> (camera)	<i>die Kameras</i> (cameras)

This is the simplest way that plurals may be formed, but it is not the typical way. Most plurals are formed in other ways, similar to irregular plurals in English, such as child/children, mouse/mice, goose/geese.

The Plural of Masculine Nouns

Masculine nouns that end in *-er*, *-el*, or *-en* have no ending in the plural, but they may require adding an Umlaut. Some examples with masculine nouns are shown in the following table.

► Plural of Masculine Nouns Ending in *-er*, *-el*, or *-en*

<i>Singular Noun</i>	<i>Plural Noun with Numbers</i>	<i>Plural Noun with Definite Article</i>
<i>der Schauspieler</i> (the actor)	<i>sechs Schauspieler</i> (six actors)	<i>die Schauspieler</i> (the actors)
<i>der Löffel</i> (the spoon)	<i>zwei Löffel</i> (two spoons)	<i>die Löffel</i> (the spoons)
<i>der Laden</i> (the shop)	<i>acht Läden</i> (eight shops)	<i>die Läden</i> (the shops)
<i>der Vater</i> (the father)	<i>drei Väter</i> (three fathers)	<i>die Väter</i> (the fathers)

Note how *Laden* and *Vater* have added an Umlaut above the *a* in the plural form.

Other masculine nouns, particularly short, one-syllable nouns, usually form their plural by adding *-e* to the noun. Often an Umlaut is required.

► **Masculine Plural Ending –e**

<i>Singular Noun</i>	<i>Plural Noun with Numbers</i>	<i>Plural Noun with Definite Article</i>
<i>der Abend</i> (the evening)	<i>zwei Abende</i> (two evenings)	<i>die Abende</i> (the evenings)
<i>der Brief</i> (the letter)	<i>sechs Briefe</i> (six letters)	<i>die Briefe</i> (the letters)
<i>der Bus</i> (the bus)	<i>zwei Busse</i> (two buses)	<i>die Busse</i> (the buses)
<i>der Markt</i> (the market)	<i>drei Märkte</i> (three markets)	<i>die Märkte</i> (the markets)
<i>der Sohn</i> (the son)	<i>vier Söhne</i> (four sons)	<i>die Söhne</i> (the sons)
<i>der Stuhl</i> (the chair)	<i>vier Stühle</i> (four chairs)	<i>die Stühle</i> (the chairs)
<i>der Tag</i> (the day)	<i>zehn Tage</i> (ten days)	<i>die Tage</i> (the days)
<i>der Zug</i> (the train)	<i>acht Züge</i> (eight trains)	<i>die Züge</i> (the trains)

One high-frequency masculine noun that doesn't follow these patterns is *der Mann* (man). It forms its plural by adding an Umlaut and the ending *–er*: *zwei Männer* (two men), *die Männer* (the men).

Feminine Nouns in the Plural

Just like masculine nouns, feminine nouns don't change to the plural by simply adding an *–s*. Most feminine nouns change to the plural by adding *–n* or *–en*. And just like all other plural nouns, they use *die* as the definite article.

► Forming Plurals of Feminine Nouns by Adding *-n* or *-en*

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
<i>die Frau</i> (the woman)	<i>die Frauen</i> (the women)
<i>die Schwester</i> (the sister)	<i>die Schwestern</i> (the sisters)
<i>die Straße</i> (the street)	<i>die Straßen</i> (the streets)
<i>die Tasse</i> (the cup)	<i>die Tassen</i> (the cups)

If a feminine noun ends in *-in*, the plural ending is *-nen*. *Die Freundin* (girlfriend) becomes *die Freundinnen* (girlfriends).

There are two notable exceptions to the rule regarding *-n* or *-en* for feminine nouns. Note that the only change in these two words is the addition of an Umlaut in the plural:

- *die Mutter* (mother) / *die Mütter* (mothers)
- *die Tochter* (daughter) / *die Töchter* (daughters)

Making Neuter Nouns Plural

Many neuter words follow a similar pattern to some masculine words: There is no ending change in the plural. Examples:

► Neuter Plural Formation for Nouns That Take No Ending

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
<i>das Fenster</i> (the window)	<i>die Fenster</i> (the windows)
<i>das Klassenzimmer</i> (the classroom)	<i>die Klassenzimmer</i> (the classrooms)
<i>das Mädchen</i> (the girl)	<i>die Mädchen</i> (the girls)

Neuter words, particularly those of one syllable, tend to form their plural by the ending *-er*. An Umlaut may also be added in some cases.

► Neuter Plural Formation for Nouns That Take an –er Ending

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
<i>das Fahrrad</i> (the bicycle)	<i>die Fahrräder</i> (the bicycles)
<i>das Glas</i> (the glass)	<i>die Gläser</i> (the glasses)
<i>das Haus</i> (the house)	<i>die Häuser</i> (the houses)
<i>das Kind</i> (the child)	<i>die Kinder</i> (the children)
<i>das Land</i> (the country)	<i>die Länder</i> (the countries)

Words that end in *–chen* and *–lein* change just the article from *das* to *die*; no endings are added. *Das Mädchen* (the girl) becomes *die Mädchen* (the girls), *das Röslein* (the little rose) becomes *die Röslein* (the little roses).

Be aware that these rules regarding plural formations show only a tendency. They are meant to help guide you. But there will always be exceptions. Using German plurals accurately will come with experience and time.

Pronouns

Now that you have a feeling for German gender, it's time to meet the pronouns that go along with the gender of nouns. Pronouns are words that take the place of a noun. They follow the patterns you have already learned with nouns. Interestingly, the German pronouns for “he,” “she,” and “it” resemble very much the definite articles.

► Third Person Singular Pronouns

<i>Gender</i>	<i>Definite Article</i>	<i>Pronoun</i>
masculine	<i>der</i>	<i>er</i> (he or it)
feminine	<i>die</i>	<i>sie</i> (she or it)
neuter	<i>das</i>	<i>es</i> (he, she, or it)

Remember that German gender is not based on sexual gender. That's why *er* means both "he" and "it," and *sie* means both "she" and "it." It depends on the meaning of the noun. Look at these examples:

► Pronoun Substitution

Noun Subject	Pronoun Replacement	Translation
<i>Der Mann ist da.</i>	<i>Er ist da.</i>	He is there.
<i>Der Mantel ist da.</i>	<i>Er ist da.</i>	It is there.
<i>Die Studentin ist in der Stadt.</i>	<i>Sie ist in der Stadt.</i>	She is in the city.
<i>Die Schule ist in der Stadt.</i>	<i>Sie ist in der Stadt.</i>	It is in the city.
<i>Das Kind ist hier.</i>	<i>Es ist hier.</i>	He/she is here.
<i>Das Geschenk ist hier.</i>	<i>Es ist hier.</i>	It is here.

You and I

In addition to the third person pronouns that you just learned, you should know the first and second person personal pronouns.

► Personal Pronouns—Singular

Person	English Pronoun	German Pronoun
First	I	<i>ich</i>
Second	you	<i>du</i> (informal), <i>Sie</i> (formal)
Third	he, she, it	<i>er, sie, es</i>

Sie is the formal way to say "you," which you would use with anyone you don't know or anyone older than you or in a position of authority. There's no exact English equivalent. It is always capitalized. And don't let the word for "she" or "it" (*sie*) confuse you, even though it looks the same—it's always spelled with a lowercase letter except at the beginning of a sentence.

The German word for the pronoun “I” is *ich* and is never capitalized except at the beginning of a sentence. It’s just the opposite of English.

Plural Pronouns

To talk about nouns that are plural without repeating them over and over, you’ll need to use the plural pronouns.

► Personal Pronouns—Plural

<i>Person</i>	<i>English Pronoun</i>	<i>German Pronoun</i>
First	we	<i>wir</i>
Second	you all	<i>ihr</i>
Third	they	<i>sie</i>

Here are some examples:

- *Vater und Mutter* becomes *sie* (pl.)
- *Benno und Ilse* becomes *sie* (pl.)
- *Karl und ich* becomes *wir*
- *der Schüler und ich* becomes *wir*

Using You

German has three different pronouns that mean “you,” as you have now seen. German has a plural, informal pronoun (the plural of *du*). It is *ihr*. Yes, it also means “you.” And, of course, you’ve already encountered *Sie*, which is the formal pronoun “you.” So let’s look at those forms of “you” again and put them in perspective.

- *du* (you, sing.) used to address one person on an informal or familiar basis
- *ihr* (you, pl.) used to address more than one person on an informal or familiar basis
- *Sie* (you, sing. or pl.) used to address one or more persons on a formal basis

“Informal” here means that the person to whom you are speaking is a relative or a close friend and you are on a first-name basis with one another. “Formal” here means that the person to whom you are speaking is older, in a position of respect or authority, or is someone you don’t know well. You use a title and a last name when addressing this person: *Herr Braun*, *Professor Brenner*, *Doktor Schmidt*.

Adjectives and Where They Stand

Just like English adjectives, German adjectives can stand alone at the end of a phrase to describe a noun in a sentence. These adjectives are called predicate adjectives.

- The child is little. *Das Kind ist klein.*
- Uncle Jack is young. *Onkel Hans ist jung.*
- Grandmother gets furious. *Großmutter wird wütend.*

In this regard, German and English adjectives are used in the very same way. But when an adjective stands directly in front of a noun, that’s where English and German differ. German adjectives add an ending when they stand in front of a noun.

- The little child is sad. *Das kleine Kind ist traurig.*
- The young man is playing soccer. *Der junge Mann spielt Fußball.*
- The old lady likes it. *Die alte Dame hat es gern.*

When using the definite article (*der, die, das*) with a singular noun, the adjective ending is *-e*. But if the noun is plural, the ending is *-en*.

- *Das kleine Kind ist traurig. Die kleinen Kinder sind traurig.*
- *Der junge Mann spielt Fußball. Die jungen Männer spielen Fußball.*
- *Die alte Dame hat es gern. Die alten Damen haben es gern.*

► Adjectives

German	English
<i>arm</i>	poor
<i>kurz</i>	short
<i>blau</i>	blue
<i>lang</i>	long
<i>braun</i>	brown
<i>langweilig</i>	boring
<i>gelb</i>	yellow
<i>neu</i>	new
<i>grau</i>	gray
<i>reich</i>	rich
<i>grün</i>	green
<i>rot</i>	red

German	English
<i>hässlich</i>	ugly
<i>schwarz</i>	black
<i>hübsch</i>	beautiful/handsome
<i>weiß</i>	white
<i>interessant</i>	interesting

Here are some examples of predicate adjectives (which take no endings) compared to adjectives in front of the nouns they modify (which do take endings).

- *Die Lehrerin ist alt.* (The teacher is old.)
- *die alte Lehrerin* (the old teacher)
- *Das Kind ist klein.* (The child is small.)
- *das kleine Kind* (the small child)
- *Die Kinder sind traurig.* (The children are sad.)
- *die traurigen Kinder* (the sad children)
- *Die Frauen sind hübsch.* (The women are beautiful.)
- *die hübschen Frauen* (the beautiful women)
- *Die Vase ist grün.* (The vase is green.)
- *die grüne Vase* (the green vase)

Verbs: Infinitives, Auxiliaries, and Conjugations

A verb is one of the most important elements of any language. They tell what's going on: singing, running, fighting, crying, sleeping, drinking, talking, loving, and . . . on and on. Here you'll learn how to conjugate verbs and form sentences. Before long, you'll be speaking like a native!

Conjugate What?

Infinitives, in any language, are the basic form of verbs. In English, infinitives begin with the word "to" and

look like this: to run, to jump, to follow, to argue, to be. In German they end in *-n* or *-en*: *sein*, *gehen*, *heißen*.

Conjugating a verb means to put the appropriate endings on the verb that correspond to the various pronouns. In English that's a relatively simple matter. You drop the word "to" from the infinitive and add an *-s* to the third person singular (he, she, it). Look at the example here.

► Verb Endings in English

Pronoun	to run	to speak	to be	to understand
I	run	speak	am	understand
you	run	speak	are	understand
he, she, it	runs	speaks	is	understands
we	run	speak	are	understand
they	run	speak	are	understand

When it comes to verbs, English is a little more complicated than German. Watch out for the two present tense forms that we have in English. German has only one. And both English forms are translated into German the same way. Look at these examples:

- I buy a house. *Ich kaufe ein Haus.*
- I am buying a house. *Ich kaufe ein Haus.*
- He goes home. *Er geht nach Hause.*
- He is going home. *Er geht nach Hause.*

The German Verb

You have already learned a bit about one of the most important verbs in German: *sein*. That's the infinitive form of the verb "to be."

► Conjugating *sein* (to be)

Person	English Conjugation	German Conjugation
First (sing.)	I am	<i>ich bin</i>
Second (sing.)	you are (informal)	<i>du bist</i>
Third (sing.)	he is, she is, it is	<i>er ist, sie ist, es ist</i>
First (pl.)	we are	<i>wir sind</i>
Second (pl.)	you are	<i>ihr seid</i>
Second (sing., pl.)	you are (formal)	<i>Sie sind</i>
Third (pl.)	they are	<i>sie sind</i>

You probably have noticed that there are three pronouns in German that look an awfully lot alike: *sie* (she), *Sie* (you formal), *sie* (they). Germans have no problem distinguishing these pronouns, because their usage is so specific. For one thing, *sie ist* can mean only “she is,” because the verb *ist* is used only with *er*, *sie* (she), and *es*. And the context of a conversation would make clear whether *Sie* (you formal) or *sie* (they) is meant.

In this book, you will know that “you” is the meaning of *Sie* when you see it with a capitalized *S*. The other two forms will be identified as singular and plural. If you see *sie* (sing.), you will know that it means “she.” If you see *sie* (pl.), you will know it means “they.”

Going Somewhere? Verbs of Motion

It's time to start moving around a little more. Let's look at four verbs that are called verbs of motion. They describe how you get from one place to another: *gehen* (GAY-EN), to go on foot; *kommen* (KAW-men), to come; *fliegen* (FLEE-gen), to fly; and *fahren* (FAHR-en), to drive or to go by transportation.

They're used almost in the same way that their English counterparts are used, except that German tends to be

a little more specific. In English we say, “I go to school.” We don’t tell whether we walk there, drive there, or fly there. In German there’s a tendency to specify the means of conveyance: walking, driving, or flying.

To learn how to conjugate these verbs, you need to know the term “verb stem.” A verb stem is the part of the infinitive remaining when you drop the final *-en*: *fahren/fahr*, *gehen/geh*, and so on. You add endings to the verb stem to conjugate each verb according to the person and number (singular or plural). Take a look at the following table.

► Conjugational Endings of Verbs

Person	Ending to Add to Verb Stem	Example
First (sing.)	–e	<i>ich gehe</i>
Second (sing.)	–st	<i>du gehst</i>
Third (sing.)	–t	<i>er, sie, es geht</i>
First (pl.)	–en	<i>wir gehen</i>
Second (pl.)	–t	<i>ihr geht</i>
Second formal (sing. or pl.)	–en	<i>Sie gehen</i>
Third (pl.)	–en	<i>sie gehen</i>

Now let’s look at the conjugations of these verbs of motion.

► Conjugating Verbs of Motion

gehen	kommen	fliegen	fahren
<i>ich gehe</i>	<i>ich komme</i>	<i>ich fliege</i>	<i>ich fahre</i>
<i>du gehst</i>	<i>du kommst</i>	<i>du fliegst</i>	<i>du fährst</i>
<i>er/sie/es geht</i>	<i>er/sie/es kommt</i>	<i>er/sie/es fliegt</i>	<i>er/sie/es fährt</i>
<i>wir gehen</i>	<i>wir kommen</i>	<i>wir fliegen</i>	<i>wir fahren</i>
<i>ihr geht</i>	<i>ihr kommt</i>	<i>ihr fliegt</i>	<i>ihr fahrt</i>
<i>Sie gehen</i>	<i>Sie kommen</i>	<i>Sie fliegen</i>	<i>Sie fahren</i>
<i>sie (pl.) gehen</i>	<i>sie kommen</i>	<i>sie fliegen</i>	<i>sie fahren</i>

Notice that the second person singular and third person singular (*du, er, sie, es*) add an Umlaut in their conjugation of the verb *fahren*: *du fährst, er fährt, sie fährt, es fährt*. This is called a stem change.

Let's look at some examples of ways to use these verbs.

- *Ihr kommt aus Berlin.* (You all come from Berlin.)
- *Wir fliegen nach Hause.* (We fly home.)
- *Er fährt mit dem Bus.* (He goes [drives] by bus.)
- *Ich gehe mit Hans.* (I go with Hans.)
- *Sie fahren mit dem Zug.* (They are going by train.)

The phrase *kommen aus* is used regularly to tell what city, locale, or country you come from: *Ich komme aus Hamburg. Er kommt aus Bayern* (Bavaria). *Wir kommen aus Amerika.*

Essentials for Life: Eating and Drinking

Essen (ESS-en) (to eat) and *trinken* (TRIN-ken) (to drink) are not verbs of motion. But notice that their conjugation follows the same pattern as the other verbs you have learned.

Take note that the verb *essen*, like *fahren*, requires a slight change in the second and third person singular (*du, er, sie, es*): *du isst, er isst, sie isst, es isst*.

► Conjugating *essen* and *trinken*

<i>essen</i>	<i>trinken</i>
<i>ich esse</i>	<i>ich trinke</i>
<i>du isst</i>	<i>du trinkst</i>
<i>er/sie/es isst</i>	<i>er/sie/es trinkt</i>
<i>Sie essen</i>	<i>Sie trinken</i>

essen
 wir essen
 ihr esst
 sie (pl.) essen

trinken
 wir trinken
 ihr trinkt
 sie trinken

Present Tense

Now that you know how to put the correct endings on German verbs, it's time to start collecting some useful ones to add to your vocabulary.

► Present Tense Conjugations of Some New Verbs

	German						Sie/sie (pl.)
English	infinitive	ich	du	er/sie/es	wir	ihr	
to							
laugh	<i>lachen</i>	<i>lache</i>	<i>lachst</i>	<i>lacht</i>	<i>lachen</i>	<i>lacht</i>	<i>lachen</i>
to live	<i>leben</i>	<i>lebe</i>	<i>lebst</i>	<i>lebt</i>	<i>leben</i>	<i>lebt</i>	<i>leben</i>
to reside	<i>wohnen</i>	<i>wohne</i>	<i>wohnst</i>	<i>wohnt</i>	<i>wohnen</i>	<i>wohnt</i>	<i>wohnen</i>
to love	<i>lieben</i>	<i>liebe</i>	<i>liebst</i>	<i>liebt</i>	<i>lieben</i>	<i>liebt</i>	<i>lieben</i>
to need	<i>brauchen</i>	<i>brauche</i>	<i>brauchst</i>	<i>braucht</i>	<i>brauchen</i>	<i>braucht</i>	<i>brauchen</i>
to play	<i>spielen</i>	<i>spiele</i>	<i>spielst</i>	<i>spielt</i>	<i>spielen</i>	<i>spielt</i>	<i>spielen</i>
to say	<i>sagen</i>	<i>sage</i>	<i>sagst</i>	<i>sagt</i>	<i>sagen</i>	<i>sagt</i>	<i>sagen</i>
to seek	<i>suchen</i>	<i>suche</i>	<i>suchst</i>	<i>sucht</i>	<i>suchen</i>	<i>sucht</i>	<i>suchen</i>
to think	<i>denken</i>	<i>denke</i>	<i>denkst</i>	<i>denkt</i>	<i>denken</i>	<i>denkt</i>	<i>denken</i>
to visit	<i>besuchen</i>	<i>besuche</i>	<i>besuchst</i>	<i>besucht</i>	<i>besuchen</i>	<i>besucht</i>	<i>besuchen</i>

Watch out for *leben* and *wohnen*. The former means “to live, to be alive.” The latter means “to live or reside” somewhere. *Andreas lebt wie ein König.* (Andreas lives like a king.) *Andreas wohnt jetzt in Berlin.* (Andreas is living in Berlin now.)

Below are five more new verbs to add to your German vocabulary. But they have a variation in the verb stem that you'll have to watch for.

If a German verb stem ends in *-d* or *-t*, you have to add an extra *-e* before adding a *-t* or an *-st* ending. This makes the conjugated verb easier to pronounce. You'll remember that the *-t* ending is needed after *er, sie, es*, and *ihr* and *-st* is used after *du*. Look at these examples:

► Verb Stems Ending in *-t* or *-d*

English	German infinitive	ich	du
to answer	<i>antworten</i>	<i>antworte</i>	<i>antwortest</i>
to find	<i>finden</i>	<i>finde</i>	<i>findest</i>
to send	<i>senden</i>	<i>sende</i>	<i>sendest</i>
to wait	<i>warten</i>	<i>warte</i>	<i>wartest</i>
to work	<i>arbeiten</i>	<i>arbeite</i>	<i>arbeitest</i>

English	German infinitive	er/sie/es	wir	ihr	Sie/sie (pl.)
to answer	<i>antworten</i>	<i>antwortet</i>	<i>antworten</i>	<i>antwortet</i>	<i>antworten</i>
to find	<i>finden</i>	<i>findet</i>	<i>finden</i>	<i>findet</i>	<i>finden</i>
to send	<i>senden</i>	<i>sendet</i>	<i>senden</i>	<i>sendet</i>	<i>senden</i>
to wait	<i>warten</i>	<i>wartet</i>	<i>warten</i>	<i>wartet</i>	<i>warten</i>
to work	<i>arbeiten</i>	<i>arbeitet</i>	<i>arbeiten</i>	<i>arbeitet</i>	<i>arbeiten</i>

Verbs That End in *-ieren*

There are numerous patterns of words that help to build a vocabulary rapidly. Another pattern is the verb ending *-ieren*. Verbs that have this ending tend to be very similar to English. And they're all regular verbs, so they don't require a change to the stem in conjugations.

Here are some useful words to learn:

- *akzeptieren* (to accept)
- *arrangieren* (to arrange)
- *diskutieren* (to discuss)
- *isolieren* (to isolate)
- *konfiszieren* (to confiscate)
- *kontrollieren* (to control, supervise)
- *kritisieren* (to criticize)
- *marschieren* (to march)
- *fotografieren* (to photograph)
- *reduzieren* (to reduce)
- *reparieren* (to repair)
- *reservieren* (to reserve)
- *riskieren* (to risk)
- *studieren* (to study)

A Very Versatile Verb

The word *bitten* is one of the most frequently used German words. It has more than just one meaning, of course.

Bitten means “to ask, to request” or “to beg.” But it doesn’t have anything to do with asking questions. It refers to asking someone to do something: “He asks her to remove her hat.” “The teacher asks the class to remain very quiet.”

- *Er bittet sie, stehen zu bleiben.* (He asks them to remain standing.)
- *Ich bitte ihn, nach Hause zu kommen.* (I ask him to come home.)

In addition, you will often hear the word when you walk up to a salesperson in a store. “*Bitte*,” the salesperson will say cheerfully. Or, “*Bitte schön*.” It’s comparable to “May I help you?” in English.

When the salesperson hands you your purchase, he or she might also say, “*Bitte schön*.” In this case it means something like “here you are” or “here’s your package.”

And when you thank the salesperson (*danke schön*), the response will be “*bitte schön*” or “*bitte sehr*” (you’re welcome).

Negation

To negate a sentence in German, you can use the word *nicht* (not). The word *nicht* comes after the verb.

- *Ich bin nicht Peter.* (I am not Peter.)
- *Er wohnt nicht in München.* (He does not live in Munich.)
- *Sie studiert nicht französisch.* (She is not studying French.)

However, if you use a sentence that uses the indefinite article *ein*, you can’t use *nicht*. To negate *ein*, you use the word *kein* (KINE), which means “not any” or “no.” *Kein* always replaces *ein*.

- *Ich habe kein Geld.* (I don’t have any money.)
- *Ich habe keinen Teller.* (I have no plate.)

The same endings that you learned to use with *ein* must also be used with *kein*. You’ll learn more about the endings that *ein*-words can take in the next chapter.

► Negating *ein* in the Genders

Masculine	Feminine	Neuter	English meaning
kein	keine	kein	not a/not any

- *Sie sehen eine Brücke. Sie sehen keine Brücke.* (They see a bridge. They don't see a bridge.)
- *Ich kaufe einen Teller. Ich kaufe keinen Teller.* (I buy a plate. I don't buy a plate.)

Irregular Verbs

Now that you've learned the basics about German verbs, it's time to look more closely at some verbs that take stem changes in the present tense. One of the most often used is the verb "to have." This section will also cover using the present tense to talk about the future.

The German Verb

One very common German verb is "to have"—*haben*. This verb, like some that you already learned, doesn't follow the rules of conjugation exactly. In the second and third person singular, the stem of the verb (the part left after you drop the *-en*) changes. It's time to become acquainted with the little irregularities found in this verb.

► Conjugating *haben* (to have)

Person	English Conjugation	German Conjugation
First (sing.)	I have	<i>ich habe</i>
Second (sing.)	you have	<i>du hast</i>
Third (sing.)	he/she/it has	<i>er/sie/es hat</i>
First (pl.)	we have	<i>wir haben</i>
Second (pl.)	you all have	<i>ihr habt</i>
Second (formal)	you have	<i>Sie haben</i>
Third (pl.)	they have	<i>sie (pl.) haben</i>

Practice saying the conjugation of the verb and place it in your memory. It's a very important verb to know. And just like *sein*, you can use it in a sentence with *heute* to indicate the present tense.

- *Maria hat ein Examen.* (Maria has an exam.)
- *Heute haben wir eine Übung.* (We are having an exercise today.)
- *Ich habe eine Klasse.* (I have a class.)
- *Du hast es.* (You have it.)
- *Er hat eine Prüfung.* (He has a test.)

Expressing Like with Haben

German has a special way of saying that a person likes someone or something. To express “like” in German, conjugate *haben*, say what it is you like, and follow the whole phrase with the word *gern*.

► Using *gern haben* to Express Like

<i>Conjugate</i>	<i>Direct Object</i>		<i>English</i>
<i>haben</i>	<i>(what you like)</i>	<i>gern</i>	<i>Meaning</i>
<i>Ich habe</i>	<i>Gemüse</i>	<i>gern.</i>	I like vegetables.
<i>Du hast</i>	<i>das Mädchen</i>	<i>gern.</i>	You like the girl.
<i>Wir haben</i>	<i>Musik</i>	<i>gern.</i>	We like music.
<i>Haben Sie</i>	<i>Karl oder Hans</i>	<i>gern?</i>	Do you like Karl or Hans?

You can also use *gern* following other verbs to show that you like doing something:

- *Ich esse gern Obst.* (I like eating fruit.)
- *Er trinkt gern Bier.* (He likes drinking beer.)
- *Wir singen gern.* (We like singing.)

This is a very common phrase and one you should put in your treasury of vocabulary.

The Word Morgen

Morgen means “tomorrow” and indicates that something is occurring in the future. It is an adverb that tells “when” something is occurring. But you can use the present tense of a verb and still mean the future. It’s just like English. You can specify the time by “today” or “tomorrow” using only a present tense verb.

- Today he is in Germany.
- Tomorrow he is in Germany.

Look at some German examples:

- *Heute sind wir in Hamburg.* (We are in Hamburg today.)
- *Morgen sind wir in Hamburg.* (We are in Hamburg tomorrow.)
- *Heute habe ich eine Prüfung.* (I have a test today.)
- *Morgen habe ich eine Prüfung.* (I have a test tomorrow.)

You can also use the present tense to infer a future meaning using the verbs of motion that you learned earlier.

- *Heute kommt er ins Kino.* (He is coming to the movies today.)
- *Morgen kommt er ins Kino.* (He is coming to the movies tomorrow.)
- *Heute fliegen wir nach Hause.* (We are flying home today.)

- *Morgen fliegen wir nach Hause.* (We are flying home tomorrow.)

Stem Changes in the Present Tense

You learned early that German has some special forms in the present tense. The verb *fahren*, for example, requires an Umlaut in the second person singular (*du*) and third person singular (*er, sie, es*): *ich fahre, du fährst, er fährt*, and so on.

Three other verbs you should know fall into the same category of special changes. But notice that each verb has its own peculiar way of changing. The verb *wissen* (to know) becomes a new form, the verb *sprechen* (to speak) changes the vowel *-e* to *-i*, and the verb *laufen* (to run) adds an Umlaut.

► **The Conjugation of *wissen, sprechen, and laufen***

Pronoun	wissen	sprechen	laufen
<i>ich</i>	<i>weiß</i>	<i>spreche</i>	<i>laufe</i>
<i>du</i>	<i>weißt</i>	<i>sprichst</i>	<i>läufst</i>
<i>er, sie, es</i>	<i>weiß</i>	<i>spricht</i>	<i>läuft</i>
<i>wir</i>	<i>wissen</i>	<i>sprechen</i>	<i>laufen</i>
<i>ihr</i>	<i>wisst</i>	<i>sprecht</i>	<i>lauft</i>
<i>Sie, sie (pl.)</i>	<i>wissen</i>	<i>sprechen</i>	<i>laufen</i>

Be careful of the spelling of the conjugation of *wissen*. There is no ending on the stem of the verb *weiß* with the pronouns *ich, er, sie*, and *es*. And with the pronoun *du* you only add a *-t* to the stem *weißt* (*du weißt*).

There aren't many verbs that change their form the way *wissen* does. But there are lots of useful words that follow the pattern of *sprechen* and *laufen*. Many words

that have an *e* in the verb stem, like *sprechen*, change that *e* to an *i* or *ie*. And words that have the vowel *a* in the stem often add an Umlaut, like *laufen*. But remember that these little changes only occur in the second person singular (*du*) and the third person singular (*er*, *sie*, *es*). Here are some examples.

► **Verbs That Change *e* to *i***

	German	Conjugation with		
English	Infinitive	ich	du	er
to break	<i>brechen</i>	<i>ich breche</i>	<i>du brichst</i>	<i>er bricht</i>
to give	<i>geben</i>	<i>ich gebe</i>	<i>du gibst</i>	<i>er gibt</i>
to help	<i>helfen</i>	<i>ich helfe</i>	<i>du hilfst</i>	<i>er hilft</i>
to meet	<i>treffen</i>	<i>ich treffe</i>	<i>du triffst</i>	<i>er trifft</i>
to take	<i>nehmen</i>	<i>ich nehme</i>	<i>du nimmst</i>	<i>er nimmt</i>

► **Verbs That Change *e* to *ie***

	German	Conjugation with		
English	Infinitive	ich	du	er
to read	<i>lesen</i>	<i>ich lese</i>	<i>du liest</i>	<i>er liest</i>
to see	<i>sehen</i>	<i>ich sehe</i>	<i>du siehst</i>	<i>er sieht</i>

► **Verbs That Change *a* to *ä***

	German	Conjugation with		
English	Infinitive	ich	du	er
to bake	<i>backen</i>	<i>ich backe</i>	<i>du bäckst</i>	<i>er bäckt</i>
to sleep	<i>schlafen</i>	<i>ich schlafe</i>	<i>du schläfst</i>	<i>er schläft</i>
to fall	<i>fallen</i>	<i>ich falle</i>	<i>du fällst</i>	<i>er fällt</i>
to carry, wear	<i>tragen</i>	<i>ich trage</i>	<i>du trägst</i>	<i>er trägt</i>
to wash	<i>waschen</i>	<i>ich wasche</i>	<i>du wäschst</i>	<i>er wäscht</i>
to let	<i>lassen</i>	<i>ich lasse</i>	<i>du lässt</i>	<i>er lässt</i>
to catch	<i>fangen</i>	<i>ich fange</i>	<i>du fängst</i>	<i>er fängt</i>

The Many Uses of Werden

Werden is a frequently used verb in German. It means “to become” or “to get” (She becomes a doctor. It’s getting warm).

Its conjugation follows the pattern you already know, with a slight variation in the second and third persons singular.

► Conjugating *werden* (to get/to become)

	<i>English</i>	<i>German</i>
<i>Person</i>	<i>Conjugation</i>	<i>Conjugation</i>
First (sing.)	I get / I become	<i>ich werde</i>
Second (sing.)	you get / you become	<i>du wirst</i>
Third (sing.)	he/she/it gets / he/she/it becomes	<i>er/sie/es wird</i>
First (pl.)	we get / we become	<i>wir werden</i>
Second (pl.)	you all get / you all become	<i>ihr werdet</i>
Second (formal)	you get / you become	<i>Sie werden</i>
Third (pl.)	they get / they become	<i>sie werden</i>

Past Tense

In German, there are two types of past tense, regular and irregular. Don’t let it worry you. Fortunately for you as an English speaker, you have the advantage of knowing very similar past tense patterns in your native language.

For now you’re just going to concentrate on the regular past tense. In English, that’s where you tack on the ending “-ed” to a verb, and it takes on a past tense meaning.

- he jumps he jumped
- we look we looked
- I travel I traveled

Just think of all the English verbs there are that form their past tense by this simple method. The German method is just as easy. Just add *-te* to the stem of the verb and it becomes past tense.

► Forming the Past Tense

<i>Infinitive</i>	<i>Verb Stem</i>	<i>Past Tense</i>
<i>spielen</i> (to play)	<i>spiel</i>	<i>spielte</i>
<i>fragen</i> (to ask)	<i>frag</i>	<i>fragte</i>
<i>suchen</i> (to search)	<i>such</i>	<i>suchte</i>

If the stem of the verb ends in *-t* or *-d*, you have to add an extra *-e* before placing the past tense ending *-te* on the end of the stem:

■ *warten* (to wait) *wart* *wartete*

After you have formed the past tense (*spielte*, *fragte*, *suchte*, *wartete*), you're not quite done. As with all German verbs, the conjugational ending must still be added. But notice that the endings for *ich*, *er*, *sie*, and *es* are the same: *-te*. The past tense conjugation of regular verbs will look like the ones in the following table.

► Conjugating the Past Tense

<i>Pronoun</i>	<i>spielen</i>	<i>fragen</i>	<i>warten</i>
<i>ich</i>	<i>spielte</i>	<i>fragte</i>	<i>wartete</i>
<i>du</i>	<i>spieltest</i>	<i>fragtest</i>	<i>wartetest</i>
<i>er, sie, es</i>	<i>spielte</i>	<i>fragte</i>	<i>wartete</i>
<i>wir</i>	<i>spielten</i>	<i>fragten</i>	<i>warteten</i>
<i>ihr</i>	<i>spieltet</i>	<i>fragtet</i>	<i>wartetet</i>
<i>Sie</i>	<i>spielten</i>	<i>fragten</i>	<i>warteten</i>
<i>sie</i> (pl.)	<i>spielten</i>	<i>fragten</i>	<i>warteten</i>

As you can see from the above table, there are no new conjugational endings to learn for the past tense.

This past tense formation is called *das Imperfekt* in German. It is used primarily to show that something was done often (*Sie spielte oft Tennis.* / She played tennis often.) or in a narrative that describes events that happen in sequence. Unlike English, German has one past tense form.

► Comparing English and German Past Tense Forms

English Past Tenses

we were learning

we learned

German Past Tense

wir lernten

wir lernten

Forming Questions in the Past Tense

It is easy to ask questions in the past tense. There is no special formula for forming past tense questions. What you already know about questions in the present tense also applies to the past tense.

In German questions the verb always comes before the subject: *Hast du einen Hund?* (Do you have a dog?). This is true even when an interrogative word begins the sentence: *Was hast du?* (What do you have?). For past tense questions, merely form the past tense stem and put the proper conjugational ending on the verb.

► Contrasting Present Tense and Past Tense Questions

Present Tense

Spielst du Tennis? (Do you play tennis?)

Brauchen Sie Geld? (Do you need money?)

Past Tense

Spieltest du Tennis? (Did you play tennis?)

Brauchten Sie Geld? (Did you need money?)

Present Tense

Hören Sie Radio? (Do you listen to the radio?)

Lernst du Deutsch? (Are you learning German?)

Wo wohnt er? (Where does he live?)

Wer arbeitet hier? (Who works here?)

Wen besucht er? (Whom is he visiting?)

Was kauft ihr? (What are you all buying?)

Past Tense

Hörten Sie Radio? (Did you listen to the radio?)

Lerntest du Deutsch? (Did you learn German?)

Wo wohnte er? (Where did he live?)

Wer arbeitete hier? (Who worked here?)

Wen besuchte er? (Whom did he visit?)

Was kauftet ihr? (What did you all buy?)

The Past Tense of Irregular Verbs

The German past tense has a long list of verbs that change to the past tense by irregular stem formations. That sounds like trouble, but for English speakers it's really not so bad. These verbs are often called "strong verbs." In this book they're just going to be called "irregular."

What you already know about the past tense will help you to use irregular verbs in the past. Regular verbs simply put a *-te* on the end of the stem of the verb. Then the conjugational ending is added.

But irregular verbs do something different, and it's exactly what irregular verbs do in English: They form a completely new stem. Let's look at some examples in English.

► Verb Stems of the English Irregular Past Tense

<i>Infinitive</i>	<i>Past Tense Stem</i>	<i>Infinitive</i>	<i>Past Tense Stem</i>
to come	came	to bring	brought

to see	saw	to drive	drove
to run	ran	to go	went

If you think about it, you can come up with a very long list of irregular verbs in English. You know them because you slowly absorbed them during your childhood.

Comparing English and German in the Past Tense

As American kids grow up, they make mistakes: Little Johnny might say, "I dranked all my milk, Mom." But he's only five years old. In time, he'll know that the past tense of "drink" is "drank."

German kids do the same thing. For a while they form all their past tense verbs like regular verbs with a *-te* ending. But eventually they begin to remember the irregularities and use the past tense of these verbs correctly.

And you will do the same thing. You'll discover that German irregular past tense forms follow very closely the pattern of English past tense forms.

Let's look at a list of some frequently used verbs so you can see what happens in both languages.

► Irregular Verbs in English and German

<i>English</i>	<i>Past Tense</i>	<i>German</i>	<i>Past Tense</i>
<i>Infinitive</i>	<i>Stem</i>	<i>Infinitive</i>	<i>Stem</i>
to break	broke	<i>brechen</i>	<i>brach</i>
to bring	brought	<i>bringen</i>	<i>brachte</i>
to come	came	<i>kommen</i>	<i>kam</i>
to drink	drank	<i>trinken</i>	<i>trank</i>
to fly	flew	<i>fliegen</i>	<i>flog</i>
to go	went	<i>gehen</i>	<i>ging</i>
to see	saw	<i>sehen</i>	<i>sah</i>
to sing	sang	<i>singen</i>	<i>sang</i>

<i>English</i>	<i>Past Tense</i>	<i>German</i>	<i>Past Tense</i>
<i>Infinitive</i>	<i>Stem</i>	<i>Infinitive</i>	<i>Stem</i>
to speak	spoke	sprechen	sprach
to stand	stood	stehen	stand

Remember that the simple past tense (*das Imperfekt*) is used in narratives and to show repetition.

What are some of the verbs that require stem changes in the past tense? The following table is a list of some common verbs that are irregular in the past tense. Notice how many follow a pattern similar to the English past tense.

► Irregular Past Tense Stems

<i>English Infinitive</i>	<i>German Infinitive</i>	<i>Past Tense Stem</i>
to bake	backen	bak (or backte)
to be called	heißen	hieß
to become	werden	wurde
to drive	fahren	fuhr
to eat	essen	aß
to find	finden	fand
to give	geben	gab
to have	haben	hatte
to help	helfen	half
to hit	schlagen	schlug
to know	wissen	wusste
to know, be acquainted	kennen	kannte
to let	lassen	ließ
to meet	treffen	traf
to read	lesen	las
to run	laufen	lief
to sleep	schlafen	schief
to take	nehmen	nahm

<i>English Infinitive</i>	<i>German Infinitive</i>	<i>Past Tense Stem</i>
to think	denken	dachte
to wash	waschen	wusch
to wear, carry	tragen	trug
to write	schreiben	schrieb

Conjugations in the German Irregular Past Tense

You recall from previous chapters that German verbs always have to have conjugational endings. That's also true in the irregular past tense. You already know those endings.

► Irregular Past Tense Conjugations

<i>Pronoun</i>	<i>kommen</i>	<i>gehen</i>	<i>sehen</i>
<i>ich</i>	<i>kam</i>	<i>ging</i>	<i>sah</i>
<i>du</i>	<i>kamst</i>	<i>gingst</i>	<i>sahst</i>
<i>er/sie/es</i>	<i>kam</i>	<i>ging</i>	<i>sah</i>
<i>wir</i>	<i>kamen</i>	<i>gingen</i>	<i>sahen</i>
<i>ihr</i>	<i>kamt</i>	<i>gingt</i>	<i>saht</i>
<i>Sie</i>	<i>kamen</i>	<i>gingen</i>	<i>sahen</i>
<i>sie (pl.)</i>	<i>kamen</i>	<i>gingen</i>	<i>sahen</i>

As you can see, there's nothing new about the conjugation of the irregular past tense. Once you know the stem, you merely use the endings you already know.

Did you notice that, like in the past tense of regular verbs, the pronouns *ich*, *er*, *sie*, and *es* do not add a conjugational ending to the stem?

The Importance of Being

The infinitive *sein* is a very important verb. It's used as frequently in German as "to be" is used in English. You are very familiar with it in the present tense. But now it's time to become familiar with its past tense.

Just like English “to be,” German *sein* makes a complete transformation in the past tense. “To be” becomes “was.” *Sein* becomes *war*. You’ll find that, like other irregular verbs, conjugating *war* is a snap.

► The Past Tense of *sein*

Person	English	German
First (sing.)	I was	<i>ich war</i>
Second (sing.)	you were	<i>du warst</i>
Third (sing.)	he/she/it was	<i>er/sie/es war</i>
First (pl.)	we were	<i>wir waren</i>
Second (pl.)	you all were	<i>ihr wart</i>
Second (formal)	you were	<i>Sie waren</i>
Third (pl.)	they were	<i>sie waren</i>

A Special Look at *Haben* and *Werden*

These are two very common verbs in German. Alone they mean “to have” and “to become,” respectively. But they have another use—these verbs, along with *sein*, will be used to form the more complex perfect tenses. Watch out for these two! *Haben* and *werden* are irregular in both the present and past tenses.

► The Past Tense of *haben*

Person	Conjugation
First (sing.)	<i>ich hatte</i>
Second (sing.)	<i>du hattest</i>
Third (sing.)	<i>er/sie/es hatte</i>
First (pl.)	<i>wir hatten</i>
Second (pl.)	<i>ihr hattet</i>
Second (formal)	<i>Sie hatten</i>
Third (pl.)	<i>sie hatten</i>

► The Past Tense of *werden*

<i>Person</i>	<i>Conjugation</i>
First (sing.)	<i>ich wurde</i>
Second (sing.)	<i>du wurdest</i>
Third (sing.)	<i>er/sie/es wurde</i>
First (pl.)	<i>wir wurden</i>
Second (pl.)	<i>ihr wurdet</i>
Second (formal)	<i>Sie wurden</i>
Third (pl.)	<i>sie wurden</i>

Future Tense

Knowing the past tense is great for talking about things that have already happened. But what about the plans you're making for next summer or even next weekend? In this section you'll learn how to use the future tense. You'll also learn how to use the imperative form of verbs to give commands. Ready? Go!

The future tense is so simple to use. You just use a present tense conjugation in the context of a future tense meaning.

- *Heute geht Karl in die Schule.* (Karl's going to school today.)
- *Morgen geht Karl in die Schule.* (Karl's going to school tomorrow.)

But just as English has a more specific way of forming the future tense, so does German. Its formation is very much like English. In English you simply use the verb "shall" or "will" and follow it with the verb that describes what will be done in the future:

Let's look at how the three tenses differ in form and meaning with regular verbs.

► Contrasting the Present, Past, and Future Tenses

<i>Tense</i>	<i>English</i>	<i>German</i>
Present	I am learning German.	<i>Ich lerne Deutsch.</i>
Present	I learn German.	<i>Ich lerne Deutsch.</i>
Past	I was learning German.	<i>Ich lernte Deutsch.</i>
Past	I learned German.	<i>Ich lernte Deutsch.</i>
Future	I will be learning German.	<i>Ich werde Deutsch lernen.</i>
Future	I will learn German.	<i>Ich werde Deutsch lernen.</i>

Look at the sentences below and notice how the three tenses differ in verb formation and usage.

Present *Heute bin ich in der Hauptstadt.* (I am in the capital city today.)

Past *Gestern war ich in der Hauptstadt.* (I was in the capital city yesterday.)

Future *Morgen werde ich in der Hauptstadt sein.* (I will be in the capital city tomorrow.)

Future Tense with Irregular Verbs

Because in the future tense you use *werden* plus an infinitive, the irregular verbs are very easy to use in the future tense. There's no stem change to remember. Remember that when you form the future tense of any verb, you conjugate *werden* and place the conjugated verb "as an infinitive" at the end of the sentence. That means that you have to change any irregularity in the present tense back to the verb's infinitive form, when restating a sentence in the future tense.

► Contrasting the Present and Future Tenses of Irregular Verbs

Present Tense

Er liest die Zeitung. (He reads the newspaper.)

Sie läuft in die Schule. (She runs to school.)

Sabine trägt einen neuen Hut.
(Sabine is wearing a new hat.)

Das Kind spricht kein Deutsch.
(The child doesn't speak any German.)

Andreas fängt den Ball. (Andreas catches the ball.)

Wo trifft sie die Touristen? (Where is she meeting the tourists?)

Future Tense

Er wird die Zeitung lesen. (He will read the newspaper.)

Sie wird in die Schule laufen. (She will run to school.)

Sabine wird einen neuen Hut tragen.
(Sabine will wear a new hat.)

Das Kind wird kein Deutsch sprechen. (The child will not speak any German.)

Andreas wird den Ball fangen.
(Andreas will catch the ball.)

Wo wird sie die Touristen treffen?
(Where will she meet the tourists?)

Prefixes

You probably have noticed by now that many German words appear with different prefixes. Those prefixes change the meaning of a word, but they don't change how the basic word functions. For example, an irregular verb is still irregular no matter what the prefix might be.

Prefixes aren't unique to German. There are many in English, and they alter the meaning of words just like German prefixes. In the following table, notice how the meaning of a word is changed by adding a prefix.

► Prefixes with German Words

Prefix	Basic Word	Meaning	Prefix Added	New Meaning
be-	kommen	to come	bekommen	to receive
an-	kommen	to come	ankommen	to arrive
er-	schlagen	to hit	erschlagen	to kill, strike dead
auf-	schlagen	to hit	aufschlagen	to open (a book)
bei-	bringen	to bring	beibringen	to teach
um-	bringen	to bring	umbringen	to murder

Inseparable Prefixes

The inseparable prefixes are: *be-*, *ent-*, *emp-*, *er-*, *ge-*, *ver-*, and *zer-*. Here are some verbs that have these prefixes: *bekommen* (to receive, get), *entlassen* (to set free, dismiss), *empfinden* (to perceive), *erwarten* (to expect), *gehören* (to belong to), *verstehen* (to understand), and *zerbrechen* (to break to pieces).

When these prefixes are attached to a word, the accent is always on the second syllable: *besuchen* (beh-ZOOCH-en) (to visit), *gebrauchen* (geh-BROWCH-EN) (to use), *verlachen* (fair-LUCH-en) (to laugh at).

► Conjugating Verbs with and Without Inseparable Prefixes

Verb with	English	Verb with	English
No Prefix	Meaning	Inseparable Prefix	Meaning
<i>ich komme</i>	I come	<i>ich bekomme</i>	I receive
<i>er wartet</i>	he waits	<i>er erwartet</i>	he expects
<i>wir stehen</i>	we stand	<i>wir verstehen</i>	we understand

Separable Prefixes

Some of the primary separable prefixes are: *an*, *auf*, *aus*, *bei*, *ein*, *her*, *hin*, *mit*, *nach*, *um*, and *weg*. To conjugate a verb with a separable prefix, place the prefix at the end of the sentence and conjugate the verb normally. For

example, the infinitive: *ansehen* (to look at) in the present tense:

► **Conjugating a Verb with a Separable Prefix**

Ich sehe . . . an.

Du siehst . . . an.

Er sieht . . . an.

Wir sehen . . . an.

Ihr seht . . . an.

Sie sehen . . . an.

Add the following words to your vocabulary and take careful note of how the prefixes change the meaning of the words.

- *hören* (to hear)
- *aufhören* (to stop, cease)
- *nehmen* (to take)
- *stehen* (to stand)
- *verstehen* (to understand)

Be savvy about prefixes. Always check out the prefix of a word before assuming what the word means. Although you know that *stehen* means “to stand,” that information can’t necessarily help you to know what *entstehen* means. (By the way, *entstehen* means “to originate.”) You know that *nehmen* means “to take.” But the meaning of the verb *er nimmt . . . an* and of the verb *er nimmt . . . ab* has been altered to “he assumes” and “he reduces.” Never underestimate the importance of the prefix.

Using German well means knowing prefixes and using them properly.

Direct Objects

To discover the direct object in a sentence, just ask “what” or “whom” with the verb. Examples:

► Finding the Direct Object

<i>Sentence</i>	<i>What or Whom?</i>	<i>Direct Object</i>
John buys a car.	What does John buy?	car
I like it.	What do I like?	it
She sent a long list of problems	What did she send?	list

German is very similar to English in that some nouns—feminine and neuter nouns, specifically—don’t make any changes when they’re used as direct objects. And just like English, most German pronouns do require changes. Look at these examples:

► German Nouns and Pronouns as Direct Objects

<i>Noun as Subject</i>	<i>Noun as Direct Object</i>
<i>Die Schule ist in der Stadt.</i> (The school is in the city.)	<i>Sie (pl.) sehen die Schule.</i> (They see the school.)
<i>Die Lehrerin ist da.</i> (The teacher is there.)	<i>Sie (pl.) sehen die Lehrerin.</i> (They see the teacher.)
<i>Pronoun as Subject</i>	<i>Pronoun as Direct Object</i>
<i>Ich bin in Berlin.</i> (I am in Berlin.)	<i>Sie (pl.) sehen mich.</i> (They see me.)
<i>Du bist in Hamburg.</i> (You are in Hamburg.)	<i>Sie (pl.) sehen dich.</i> (They see you.)

Nominative and Accusative

The nominative case is the name given to the subject of a sentence. The subject is said to be in the nominative case.

- English: The boy is going to the park.
- German: *Der Junge geht zum Park.*

Direct objects are said to be in the accusative case.

- English: My brother knows the teacher.
- German: *Mein Bruder kennt den Lehrer.*

Whenever you change a masculine noun from *der Mann* to *den Mann*, you have changed it from the nominative to the accusative case. And with feminine and neuter nouns, the nominative and accusative cases are identical. This is also true of plural nouns.

- *Mein Bruder kennt den Lehrer.* (My brother knows the teacher.)
- *Mein Bruder kennt die Lehrer.* (My brother knows the teachers.)

► Definite and Indefinite Articles in the Accusative Case

<i>Masculine</i>	<i>Feminine</i>	<i>Neuter</i>	<i>Plural</i>
<i>den</i>	<i>die</i>	<i>das</i>	<i>die</i>
<i>einen</i>	<i>eine</i>	<i>ein</i>	<i>keine</i>

A verb that is often followed by a direct object is *haben* (to have). Look at these examples:

- *Sie (pl.) haben die Zeitung.*
(They have the newspaper.)
- *Wir haben ein Problem.* (We have a problem.)

► Pronouns in the Accusative Case

	Nominative	Accusative	English
Person	Pronoun	Pronoun	Meaning
First (sing.)	<i>ich</i>	<i>mich</i>	me
Second (sing.)	<i>du</i>	<i>dich</i>	you
Third (sing.)	<i>er/sie/es</i>	<i>ihn/sie/es</i>	him/her/it
First (pl.)	<i>wir</i>	<i>uns</i>	us
Second (pl.)	<i>ihr</i>	<i>euch</i>	you
Second (formal)	<i>Sie</i>	<i>Sie</i>	you
Third (pl.)	<i>sie</i>	<i>sie</i>	them

Using Adjectives with Direct Objects

You learned that masculine nouns as direct objects change to the accusative case. That means that *der Mann* becomes *den Mann*. The same *-en* ending occurs when an adjective is added: *der alte Mann* becomes *den alten Mann* in the accusative case. Since the feminine, neuter, and plural are identical in both the nominative and accusative cases, there is no change in the adjective ending when they are used as direct objects.

Look at the pattern of adjective endings in the nominative and accusative cases.

► Comparing the Nominative and Accusative Cases

Case	Masculine	Feminine	Neuter	Plural
Nom.	<i>der kleine</i>	<i>die kleine</i>	<i>das kleine</i>	<i>die kleinen</i>
	<i>Tisch</i>	<i>Flasche</i>	<i>Buch</i>	<i>Bücher</i>
Acc.	<i>den kleinen</i>	<i>die kleine</i>	<i>das kleine</i>	<i>die kleinen</i>
	<i>Tisch</i>	<i>Flasche</i>	<i>Buch</i>	<i>Bücher</i>

Let's look at some examples using adjectives with direct objects:

- *Der neue Schüler wohnt in Deutschland.* (The new student lives in Germany.)
- *Wir besuchen den neuen Schüler.* (We visit the new student.)
- *Die arme Frau kommt aus Österreich.* (The poor woman comes from Austria.)
- *Hören Sie die arme Frau?* (Do you hear the poor woman?)

Prepositions That Take the Accusative

The accusative case is also required after certain prepositions

- *bis* (to, till)
- *ohne* (without)
- *durch* (through)
- *um* (around, at)
- *für* (for)
- *wider* (against)
- *gegen* (against)

► Accusative Case with Direct Objects and Prepositions

Gender	Direct Object	Preposition
Masculine	<i>Ich sehe den Mann.</i> (I see the man.)	<i>Es ist für den Mann.</i> (It is for the man.)
Feminine	<i>Ich sehe die Frau.</i> (I see the woman.)	<i>Es ist für die Frau.</i> (It is for the woman.)
Neuter	<i>Ich sehe das Kind.</i> (I see the child.)	<i>Es ist für das Kind.</i> (It is for the child.)

<i>Gender</i>	<i>Direct Object</i>	<i>Preposition</i>
Plural	<i>Ich sehe die Kinder.</i> (I see the children.)	<i>Es ist für die Kinder.</i> (It is for the children.)

It works the same way with pronouns.

► Accusative Pronouns with Prepositions

<i>Pronoun</i>	<i>Direct Object</i>	<i>Preposition</i>
<i>ich</i>	<i>Sie sehen mich.</i> (They see me.)	<i>Es ist für mich.</i> (It's for me.)
<i>du</i>	<i>Sie sehen dich.</i> (They see you.)	<i>Es ist für dich.</i> (It's for you.)
<i>er</i>	<i>Sie sehen ihn.</i> (They see him.)	<i>Es ist für ihn.</i> (It's for him.)
<i>sie</i> (sing.)	<i>Sie sehen sie.</i> (They see her.)	<i>Es ist für sie.</i> (It's for her.)
<i>wir</i>	<i>Sie sehen uns.</i> (They see us.)	<i>Es ist für uns.</i> (It's for us.)
<i>ihr</i>	<i>Sie sehen euch.</i> (They see you all.)	<i>Es ist für euch.</i> (It's for you all.)
<i>Sie</i> (formal)	<i>Sie sehen Sie.</i> (They see you.)	<i>Es ist für Sie.</i> (It's for you.)
<i>sie</i> (pl.)	<i>Sie sehen sie.</i> (They see them.)	<i>Es ist für sie.</i> (It's for them.)

Indirect Objects

It may sound like just another confusing grammatical term, but an indirect object is something that you are already very familiar with. You use it every day in English. It's really quite simple to identify in a sentence. Ask "for whom" or "to whom" something is being done and the answer is the indirect object. See the following for some examples in English:

► Identifying Indirect Objects

<i>The Sentence</i>		<i>The Indirect Object</i>
Ask "for whom" or	"to whom"	
He gave her a dollar.	To whom did he give a dollar?	her

<i>The Sentence</i>		<i>The Indirect</i>
Ask "for whom" or	"to whom"	Object
We sent them a letter.	To whom did we send a letter?	them
I bought you a ring.	For whom did I buy a ring?	you

In German the indirect object is indicated by the dative case. Like the accusative case, this case requires changes to the definite and indefinite articles of nouns.

► Definite Articles in the Dative Case

<i>Masculine</i>	<i>Feminine</i>	<i>Neuter</i>	<i>Plural</i>
<i>dem</i>	<i>der</i>	<i>dem</i>	<i>den</i>

You'll see that, unlike with the accusative case, which changed only masculine nouns, all nouns and pronouns make a slight change when used in the dative case. Masculine and neuter words change *der* and *das* to *dem*. Feminine nouns change *die* to *der*. And plural nouns change the article *die* to *den*.

Indefinite articles also take different endings when they are used in the dative case.

► Indefinite Articles in the Dative Case

<i>Masculine</i>	<i>Feminine</i>	<i>Neuter</i>	<i>Plural</i>
<i>einem</i>	<i>einer</i>	<i>einem</i>	<i>keinen</i>

In addition to these changes to the definite and indefinite articles, plural nouns also require an ending on the noun itself. In the dative plural the noun must end with an extra *-n* if there isn't already one in the plural nominative: *mit zwei Heften*. Take a close look at the following examples to see how the dative endings are used in comparison with the nominative and accusative cases.

► The Nominative, Accusative, and Dative Cases of Nouns

Gender	Nominative	Accusative	Dative
Masculine	<i>der Mann</i>	<i>den Mann</i>	<i>dem Mann</i>
Masculine	<i>ein Mann</i>	<i>einen Mann</i>	<i>einem Mann</i>
Feminine	<i>die Lampe</i>	<i>die Lampe</i>	<i>der Lampe</i>
Feminine	<i>eine Lampe</i>	<i>eine Lampe</i>	<i>einer Lampe</i>
Neuter	<i>das Heft</i>	<i>das Heft</i>	<i>dem Heft</i>
Neuter	<i>ein Heft</i>	<i>ein Heft</i>	<i>einem Heft</i>
Plural	<i>die Hefte</i>	<i>die Hefte</i>	<i>den Heften</i>
Plural	<i>keine Hefte</i>	<i>keine Hefte</i>	<i>keinen Heften</i>

Let's look at some sentences that demonstrate the use of the dative with an indirect object:

- *Die Männer geben der alten Frau ein Brötchen.* (The men give the old lady a bread roll.)
- *Der Vater kaufte seinem Sohn ein Fahrrad.* (The father bought his son a bicycle.)

Changing Dative Nouns to Pronouns

You have already learned how to change nominative and accusative nouns to pronouns. The same idea is used when changing dative nouns to pronouns.

The key to making the change correctly is identifying the gender of the noun. If the noun is masculine or neuter, change to the pronoun *ihm*. If the noun is feminine, change to the pronoun *ihr*. And if the noun is plural, change to the pronoun *ihnen*. You already know that a noun combined with *ich* (*mein Vater und ich*) is replaced by *wir*. Therefore, if the noun/*ich* phrase is in the dative case, change it to the pronoun *uns*. Let's look at some examples.

► Pronouns in the Dative Case

Person	Nominative	Dative	English
First (sing.)	<i>ich</i>	<i>mir</i>	me
Second (sing.)	<i>du</i>	<i>dir</i>	you
Third (sing.)	<i>er</i>	<i>ihm</i>	him
Third (sing.)	<i>sie</i>	<i>ihr</i>	her
Third (sing.)	<i>es</i>	<i>ihm</i>	it
First (pl.)	<i>wir</i>	<i>uns</i>	us
Second (pl.)	<i>ihr</i>	<i>euch</i>	you all
Second (formal)	<i>Sie</i>	<i>Ihnen</i>	you
Third (pl.)	<i>sie</i>	<i>ihnen</i>	them

Notice that the dative forms of *Sie* and *sie* (pl.) are identical except for the capitalization of *Sie* and *Ihnen*.

Some example sentences with dative pronouns as indirect objects:

- *Er gibt ihm ein Geschenk.* (He gives him a gift.) (To whom? Him.)
- *Wir kaufen ihr einen Hut.* (We buy her a hat.) (For whom? Her.)

Dative nouns and pronouns also follow the dative prepositions: *aus*, *außer*, *bei*, *gegenüber*, *mit*, *nach*, *seit*, *von*, and *zu* (out, apart from, at, opposite, with, after, since, from, to).

► Replacing Dative Nouns with Pronouns

<i>Noun in the Dative Case</i>	<i>Pronoun Replacement for the Dative Noun</i>
<i>Ich gebe dem Kind einen Bleistift.</i>	<i>Ich gebe ihm einen Bleistift.</i> (I give him a pencil.)
<i>Sie tanzt mit meinem Vater.</i>	<i>Sie tanzt mit ihm.</i> (She is dancing with him.)
<i>Mark wohnt bei seiner Tante.</i>	<i>Mark wohnt bei ihr.</i> (Mark lives with her.)
<i>Er kaufte den Kindern Schokolade.</i>	<i>Er kaufte ihnen Schokolade.</i> (He bought them chocolate.)
<i>Sie bekommt einen Brief von Hans und mir.</i>	<i>Sie bekommt einen Brief von uns.</i> (She receives a letter from us.)

Sentences Can Be Chock Full of Pronouns!

Have you noticed that sentences that contain an indirect object also have a direct object in them? *Sie gibt ihrem Vater das Buch.* (She gives her father the book.) To whom does she give the book? *Ihrem Vater* is the indirect object. What does she give to her father? *Das Buch* is the direct object.

You've practiced changing either the indirect object noun or the direct object noun to a pronoun. But it's possible to change both to pronouns. You do it in English, but you may add a word when you do so. You place the preposition "to" or "for" in front of the pronoun that has replaced the indirect object. Look at these examples of changing both the direct object and indirect object nouns to pronouns:

- Mary sent the man some sandwiches.
Mary sent them **to** him.
- We bought Sally a new toy.
We bought it **for** her.

German doesn't have to add a preposition when changing indirect and direct object nouns to pronouns. But there is a little switch made: The indirect object pronoun changes position with the direct object pronoun. Take a look at some examples:

- *Ich gebe dem Mann eine Tasse. Ich gebe sie ihm.*
- *Erich kaufte seiner Schwester ein Fahrrad.
Erich kaufte es ihr.*

Dative case nouns and pronouns are also used after the dative prepositions: *aus*, *außer*, *bei*, *gegenüber*, *mit*, *nach*, *seit*, *von*, and *zu* (out, apart from, at, opposite, with, after, since, from, to). For example: *mit dem Mann* (with the man), *von ihr* (from her).

04 / Putting It All Together

Questions

You've already seen a few questions in German throughout the first few chapters of this book. In this chapter you'll have a detailed look at questions and the interrogative words used to ask them.

The Three Types of Questions

There are three ways of asking a question:

- Intone a statement like a question. *Thomas ist krank?* (Thomas is sick?)
- Reverse the position of the subject and the verb. *Ist Thomas krank?* (Is Thomas sick?)
- Begin the sentence with an interrogative word. *Warum ist Thomas krank?* (Why is Thomas sick?)

Placing a Verb First

When a sentence is changed to a question, the only change in German is the position of the verb and the subject. It doesn't matter if the subject is a noun or a pronoun.

Invert the order of the two so that the verb comes first in the question:

- *Wir sind hier.* (We are here.)
- *Sind wir hier?* (Are we here?)
- *Karl hat ein Buch.* (Karl has a book.)
- *Hat Karl ein Buch?* (Does Karl have a book?)

Compare the German and English:

► Questions in the Negative

English Question

Isn't he sick?

Aren't you in school?

Don't I know him?

Doesn't she have a book?

German Question

Ist er nicht krank?

Bist du nicht in der Schule?

Kenne ich ihn nicht?

Hat sie kein Buch?

With nearly all English verbs, questions are formed by beginning the question with “do” or “does.” This never happens in German. “To be” is one of the few English verbs that doesn't require “do” or “does” to form a question: Is she at home? Are you alone?

Interrogative Words

Another way to form a question is to use an interrogative (or “question word”). There are several interrogative words, and each one asks something different. Look at the following table for some examples.

- *Ist Hans da?* (Is Hans there?)
- *Sind Sie Amerikanerin?* (Are you an American?)
- *Wie heißen Sie?* (What is your name? Literally: “How are you called?”)
- *Wer ist das?* (Who is that?)

► Interrogative Words

<i>The Kind of Question</i>	<i>Interrogative</i>	<i>The Question</i>	<i>A Possible Answer</i>
where someone is	<i>wo?</i>	<i>Wo ist dein Vater?</i> (Where is your father?)	<i>Er ist zu Hause.</i> (He is at home.)
where someone is going	<i>wohin?</i>	<i>Wohin geht Hans?</i> (Where is Hans going?)	<i>Er geht ins Kino.</i> (He is going to the movies.)
where someone is coming from	<i>woher?</i>	<i>Woher kommst du?</i> (Where are you coming from?)	<i>Ich komme aus Amerika.</i> (I come from America.)
who someone is	<i>wer?</i>	<i>Wer ist er?</i> (Who is he?)	<i>Er ist der Lehrer.</i> (He is the teacher.)
how someone does something	<i>wie?</i>	<i>Wie spielt er Tennis?</i> (How does he play tennis?)	<i>Er spielt gut Tennis.</i> (He plays tennis well.)
when something is done	<i>wann?</i>	<i>Wann kommst du nach Hause?</i> (When are you coming home?)	<i>Ich komme um elf Uhr nach Hause.</i> (I'm coming home at eleven o'clock.)
what something is	<i>was?</i>	<i>Was hast du?</i> (What do you have?)	<i>Ich habe einen neuen Hut.</i> (I have a new hat.)
what kind of	<i>was für?</i>	<i>Was für ein Buch ist das?</i> (What kind of book is that?)	<i>Das ist ein Lehrbuch.</i> (That is a textbook.)
why something is done	<i>warum?</i>	<i>Warum ist er müde?</i> (Why is he tired?)	<i>Er ist sehr alt.</i> (He is very old.)

Asking Where

The German language has three specific forms of the question “where”: *wo*, *wohin*, and *woher*. The three forms are really three different concepts about location. *Wo* always asks at what location a person is. *Wohin* asks to what location a person is going. And *woher* wants to know from what location someone comes.

Wo asks “where” a person is: *Wo bist du jetzt?* (Where are you now?) By using the preposition *in*, you can give a large variety of answers to the question “where” when you use city and country names. Many are the same in both English and German: *in Berlin*, *in Bonn*, *in New York*, *in Amerika*, *in Deutschland*.

- *Wo ist Liese?* (Where is Liese?) *Sie ist in London.* (She is in London.)
- *Wo bist du?* (Where are you?) *Du bist in Berlin.* (You are in Berlin.)

The question word *wohin* is used to ask where someone is going with verbs of motion: *Wohin gehst du?* (Where are you going?) *Wohin fliegen Sie?* (Where are you flying?) *Wohin fährst du?* (Where are you driving?)

If the place you’re going is the item in a sentence that you want to question, you have to ask “where to?” Use *wohin* in this case.

- *Wohin fährt der Kellner?* (Where’s the waiter driving?) *Der Kellner fährt nach Schweden.* (The waiter is driving to Sweden.)

What if you’re asking where someone came from? That’s where the third question word for “where” comes

in. *Woher* asks “from where?” *Woher kommst du?* (Where do you come from?)

Asking How and When

Adverbs—whether in German or English—tell you something about the verb: how, where, or when something is done.

You have already used several adverbial phrases: *Es geht Andreas gut.* (Andreas is doing well.) *Heute gehe ich nach Hause.* (Today I am going home.) *Im Winter ist es kalt.* (In winter it is cold.) Here are a few more practical adverbs to add to your vocabulary:

- *langsam* (slowly)
- *laut* (loudly)
- *leise* (quietly)
- *schnell* (fast)

Let's look at some sample questions and answers using *wie*.

- *Wie fährt dein Bruder?* (How does your brother drive?)
- *Er fährt sehr schnell.* (He drives very fast.)
- *Wie sprechen wir?* (How do we speak?)
- *Wir sprechen langsam.* (We speak slowly.)

Asking Who

To ask who someone is, use the interrogative *wer*. *Wer ist das?* means “Who is that?”

- *Wer ist der Mann?* (Who is the man?)
- *Der Mann ist Herr Schmidt.* (The man is Mr. Smith.)

- *Wer ist das Mädchen?* (Who is the little girl?)
- *Das Mädchen ist Petra.* (The little girl is Petra.)

Asking Why

Was für asks about the characteristics of someone or something: color, size, quality. *Was für ein Mädchen ist sie?* (What kind of a girl is she?) *Sie ist ein sehr nettes Mädchen.* (She's a very nice girl.) Don't confuse *für* with *was*, which asks only "what."

The word for why is *warum*. This asks for a reason. The English response to why (*warum?*) something is done, is given with the conjunction "because": "Why did he leave her?" "He left her because they fell out of love." The German word for "because" is *denn*. *Warum geht er nach Hause?* (Why does he go home?) *Er geht nach Hause, denn er ist müde.* (He goes home because he's tired.) Use *denn* to show the reason for some action.

Commands

Kaiser Wilhelm hasn't been around since 1918, but giving commands in German still takes place without him. The imperative, as it's called, is quite simple in German.

In English, you can take any infinitive (to run, to hide, to spell), drop the word "to," and you have an imperative form: *run to the store*. German is a bit different but just as easy.

We'll start with the formal command form. Begin with an infinitive: *gehen*. Place the pronoun *Sie* (formal you) behind it, and you have the German imperative: *Gehen Sie!* (Go!) Note that the German imperative requires an exclamation point after it.

Only one verb requires a little spelling change to form the imperative: *sein*. An *-e* is added after the letter *i*. Then follow the word with *Sie* and you have: *Seien Sie!* (Be!)

Here are a few examples:

- *Bleiben Sie da!* (Stay there.)
- *Fahren Sie schneller!* (Drive faster.)
- *Essen Sie!* (Eat.)
- *Fliegen Sie nach Berlin!* (Fly to Berlin.)

Informal Commands

In addition to the *Sie* (formal) version of commands, there are ways to give commands to those whom you know on a less formal basis, using the two other words for “you” in German: *du* and its plural, *ihr*. You cannot use the formal command with people to whom you say *du*. There are informal imperative formations, and they are really quite simple.

For informal singular (*du*), take the stem of the verb and add *-e*:

- *Gehe!* (Go.)
- *Bleibe!* (Stay.)
- *Komme!* (Come.)

If the verb is irregular in the present tense by a vowel change (*-e* to *-i* or *-ie*), make that change in the verb stem, but do not add an *-e* on the end:

- *Gib!* (Give.)
- *Sprich!* (Speak.)
- *Sei!* (Be.)

For the informal plural (*ihr*), just use the regular present tense conjugation. It's also the imperative of the verb:

- *Geht!* (Go.)
- *Bleibt!* (Stay.)
- *Seid!* (Be.)

Express Yourself with Feeling Verbs

In both English and German there are certain words that put "emotion" or "a special spin" on a sentence. They're often called auxiliaries or helping words.

There are six modal auxiliaries in German. Below they are shown conjugated in the present tense. Their infinitives and meaning are: *dürfen* (may), *können* (can, to be able to), *mögen* (to like), *müssen* (must, to have to), *sollen* (should, ought to), and *wollen* (to want). Notice the irregularity with *ich*, *du*, *er*, *sie*, *es*.

► Present Tense of *dürfen* (may, to be allowed to)

Singular Person	Conjugation	Plural Person	Conjugation
First (sing.)	<i>ich darf</i>	First (pl.)	<i>wir dürfen</i>
Second (sing.)	<i>du darfst</i>	Second (pl.)	<i>ihr dürft</i>
		Second (formal)	<i>Sie dürfen</i>
Third (sing.)	<i>er/sie/es darf</i>	Third (pl.)	<i>sie dürfen</i>

► Present Tense of *können* (can, to be able to)

Singular Person	Conjugation	Plural Person	Conjugation
First (sing.)	<i>ich kann</i>	First (pl.)	<i>wir können</i>
Second (sing.)	<i>du kannst</i>	Second (pl.)	<i>ihr könnt</i>
		Second (formal)	<i>Sie können</i>
Third (sing.)	<i>er/sie/es kann</i>	Third (pl.)	<i>sie können</i>

► **Present Tense of *mögen* (to like)**

Singular Person	Conjugation	Plural Person	Conjugation
First (sing.)	<i>ich mag</i>	First (pl.)	<i>wir mögen</i>
Second (sing.)	<i>du magst</i>	Second (pl.)	<i>ihr mögt</i>
		Second (formal)	<i>Sie mögen</i>
Third (sing.)	<i>er/sie/es mag</i>	Third (pl.)	<i>sie mögen</i>

► **Present Tense of *müssen* (must, to have to)**

Singular Person	Conjugation	Plural Person	Conjugation
First (sing.)	<i>ich muss</i>	First (pl.)	<i>wir müssen</i>
Second (sing.)	<i>du musst</i>	Second (pl.)	<i>ihr müsst</i>
		Second (formal)	<i>Sie müssen</i>
Third (sing.)	<i>er/sie/es muss</i>	Third (pl.)	<i>sie müssen</i>

► **Present Tense of *sollen* (should, ought to)**

Singular Person	Conjugation	Plural Person	Conjugation
First (sing.)	<i>ich soll</i>	First (pl.)	<i>wir sollen</i>
Second (sing.)	<i>du sollst</i>	Second (pl.)	<i>ihr sollt</i>
		Second (formal)	<i>Sie sollen</i>
Third (sing.)	<i>er/sie/es soll</i>	Third (pl.)	<i>sie sollen</i>

► **Present Tense of *wollen* (to want)**

Singular Person	Conjugation	Plural Person	Conjugation
First (sing.)	<i>ich will</i>	First (pl.)	<i>wir wollen</i>
Second (sing.)	<i>du willst</i>	Second (pl.)	<i>ihr wollt</i>
		Second (formal)	<i>Sie wollen</i>
Third (sing.)	<i>er/sie/es will</i>	Third (pl.)	<i>sie wollen</i>

Notice how the meaning of a sentence is altered by the addition of a modal auxiliary.

- *Er besucht seinen Onkel.* (He visits his uncle.)
- *Er darf seinen Onkel besuchen.* (He may visit his uncle.)

- *Er kann seinen Onkel besuchen.*
(He can visit his uncle.)
- *Er muss seinen Onkel besuchen.*
(He has to visit his uncle.)
- *Er soll seinen Onkel besuchen.*
(He should visit his uncle.)
- *Er will seinen Onkel besuchen.*
(He wants to visit his uncle.)

One of the keys to accuracy is to remember to place the infinitive at the end of the sentence: *Er will seinen Onkel besuchen.*

Watch out for *können* and *mögen*! The modal auxiliary *können* has a special function. It's used *alone* in a sentence to infer that someone knows a language and that he or she can read, write, speak, and understand that language. For example: *Er kann Deutsch.* (He knows German. In other words, he can read, write, speak, and understand German.)

In the past tense the modal auxiliaries follow the pattern of regular verbs. But the Umlaut is omitted throughout the past tense conjugation.

Idiomatic Expressions

Did you know that German has slang and idiomatic expressions just like English? And they're just as strange sounding as English slang and idioms are when translated literally.

Imagine a person who's just learning English, hearing someone say, "Get a load of her!" What must he or she think? The same thing occurs when English speakers learn German: They hear a lot of weird expressions that don't seem to make much sense when they look the words

up in a dictionary. That's because they're idioms or just plain slang, and direct translations are impossible.

Let's take a look at some interesting German phrases and their English idiomatic counterparts:

- *Das ist mir egal.* (I don't care.)
- *Das ist reiner Quatsch!* (That's a lot of baloney.)
- *Du nimmst mich auf den Arm.*
(You're pulling my leg.)
- *Er murmelte etwas in seinen Bart.* (He mumbled something under his breath.)
- *Halt's Maul!* (Shut up! Hold your tongue!)
- *Hau ab!* (Get out! Knock it off!)
- *Ich habe mit ihm ein Hühnchen zu rupfen.* (I've got a bone to pick with him.)
- *Mensch! Das ist ja toll!* (Man! That's just great!)
- *Mir hängt der ganze Kram zum Halse heraus.* (I'm fed up with the whole thing.)
- *Schieß los!* (Get going.)
- *Seine Frau ist in andern Umständen.* (His wife's in the family way.)

Using slang and idioms in a foreign language takes courage, because you may not read circumstances correctly and might use a word or phrase at the worst possible moment or with the wrong person. You certainly wouldn't ask your mother-in-law to leave the room by saying, "*Hau ab!*" to her. Experiment, but be cautious.

What's Yours? Possessives

Just like English, German shows "to whom" something belongs by using a possessive adjective. *Mein* means "my," and *dein* means "your." The German possessive

adjectives require endings that show gender—just like *ein* and *kein*. Look at these examples:

► Gender with Possessive Adjectives

Masculine Nouns	Feminine Nouns	Neuter Nouns	Plural Nouns
<i>der Freund</i>	<i>die Schule</i>	<i>das Haus</i>	<i>die Freunde</i>
<i>ein Freund</i>	<i>eine Schule</i>	<i>ein Haus</i>	<i>zehn Freunde</i>
<i>kein Freund</i>	<i>keine Schule</i>	<i>kein Haus</i>	<i>keine Freunde</i>
<i>mein Freund</i>	<i>meine Schule</i>	<i>mein Haus</i>	<i>meine Freunde</i>
<i>dein Freund</i>	<i>deine Schule</i>	<i>dein Haus</i>	<i>deine Freunde</i>

When masculine nouns are used as direct objects, the ending *-en* is required on the article, on *kein*, or on the possessive adjectives (*mein*, *dein*): *Ich sehe den Freund. Ich sehe einen Freund. Ich sehe keinen Freund. Ich sehe meinen Freund. Ich sehe deinen Freund.*

The Rest of the Possessive Adjectives

The possessive adjectives *mein* and *dein* were easy to pick up because they acted like *ein* and *kein* with nouns.

But now it's time to learn the rest of the possessive adjectives. Just as *mein* refers to the pronoun *ich*, and *dein* refers to the pronoun *du*, the remaining possessive adjectives refer to specific pronouns.

► Possessive Adjectives

Pronoun	Possessive Adjective	English
<i>ich</i>	<i>mein</i>	my
<i>du</i>	<i>dein</i>	your
<i>er</i>	<i>sein</i>	his
<i>sie (sing.)</i>	<i>ihr</i>	her
<i>es</i>	<i>sein</i>	its
<i>wir</i>	<i>unser</i>	our

Pronoun	Possessive Adjective	English
<i>ihr</i>	<i>euer</i>	your
<i>Sie</i>	<i>Ihr</i>	your
<i>sie</i> (pl.)	<i>ihr</i>	their

When you use nouns, masculine nouns will use *sein* as their possessive adjective, feminine nouns will use *ihr*, neuter nouns will use *sein*, and plural nouns will use *ihr*:

- *Der Mann findet sein Ticket.* (The man finds his ticket.)
- *Die Dame sieht ihren Sohn.* (The lady sees her son.)
- *Das Kind liebt seine Eltern.* (The child loves his parents.)
- *Die Kinder suchten ihre Bücher.* (The children looked for their books.)

Remember that the gender of the possessive adjective depends not on the noun it is modifying, but on the noun it represents. In the sentence above, “*Die Dame sieht ihren Sohn*,” the woman (*die Dame*) is feminine and therefore uses the possessive adjective *ihr* to mean “her.” Her son (*der Sohn*) is masculine and the direct object, so the adjective must take the masculine ending *-en*.

Just as certain endings are required with *ein*, *kein*, *mein*, and *dein*, the same endings are required for all possessive adjectives. For example:

Masculine nouns: *mein Lehrer, dein Lehrer, sein Lehrer, ihr Lehrer, unser Lehrer, euer Lehrer, Ihr Lehrer, ihr Lehrer*

Feminine nouns: *meine Lampe, deine Lampe, seine Lampe, ihre Lampe, unsere Lampe, eure Lampe, Ihre Lampe, ihre Lampe*

Neuter nouns: *mein Buch, dein Buch, sein Buch, ihr Buch, unser Buch, euer Buch, Ihr Buch, ihr Buch*

Plural nouns: *meine Hefte, deine Hefte, seine Hefte, ihre Hefte, unsere Hefte, eure Hefte, Ihre Hefte, ihre Hefte*

Now let's look at the endings that are used on the possessive adjectives in the accusative case. Recall that the accusative case is used when a noun is the direct object of a sentence, or following an accusative preposition.

Masculine nouns: *meinen Lehrer, deinen Lehrer, seinen Lehrer, ihren Lehrer, unseren Lehrer, euren Lehrer, Ihren Lehrer, ihren Lehrer*

Feminine nouns: *meine Lampe, deine Lampe, seine Lampe, ihre Lampe, unsere Lampe, eure Lampe, Ihre Lampe, ihre Lampe*

Neuter nouns: *mein Buch, dein Buch, sein Buch, ihr Buch, unser Buch, euer Buch, Ihr Buch, ihr Buch*

Plural nouns: *meine Hefte, deine Hefte, seine Hefte, ihre Hefte, unsere Hefte, eure Hefte, Ihre Hefte, ihre Hefte*

If you compare these two lists, you will see that the endings in both cases are the same for feminine, neuter, and plural nouns. It is only the masculine case that takes different endings in the accusative case.

A New Case: Genitive

You're about to meet the fourth and last case in the German language. It's called the genitive and has a couple of simple and clear-cut functions. The primary use of the

genitive case is to show possession. This is done in English by apostrophe “s” (–’s) or by the preposition “of”:

- John’s mother is a doctor.
- The roar of the lion sent shivers down his spine.

German has the form that uses an –s to show possession, but you don’t need an apostrophe. It’s used primarily with names or descriptions of people that don’t require an article:

- *Herberts Vater* (Herbert’s father)
- *Mutters Bruder* (Mother’s brother)

But the most common form used to show possession involves the use of the genitive case. An article with genitive endings is used to indicate possession.

► Genitive Articles

<i>Masculine</i>	<i>Feminine</i>	<i>Neuter</i>	<i>Plural</i>
<i>des</i>	<i>der</i>	<i>des</i>	<i>der</i>
<i>eines</i>	<i>einer</i>	<i>eines</i>	<i>keiner</i>

Masculine and neuter nouns require an –s ending to be added to the noun as well in the genitive case. If the noun has only one syllable, the ending is –es (*des Mannes*). If the noun has more than one syllable, the ending is –s (*des Lehrers*).

Adjectives that describe a noun in the genitive also take an ending, but it’s easy to remember because it is always –en.

► Genitive Endings

<i>Masculine</i>	<i>Feminine</i>	<i>Neuter</i>	<i>Plural</i>
<i>des netten Mannes</i>	<i>der netten Frau</i>	<i>des netten Kindes</i>	<i>der netten Kinder</i>
<i>eines netten Mannes</i>	<i>einer netten Frau</i>	<i>eines netten Kindes</i>	<i>keiner netten Kinder</i>
<i>Ihres netten Mannes</i>	<i>Ihrer netten Frau</i>	<i>Ihres netten Kindes</i>	<i>Ihrer netten Kinder</i>

These phrases mean: “the nice man’s,” “the nice woman’s,” “the nice child’s,” “the nice children’s,” or “of the nice man,” “of the nice woman,” “of the nice child,” “of the nice children.”

The same genitive endings are used with nouns that follow genitive prepositions, such as: *anstatt*, *trotz*, *wegen*, and *während* (instead of, despite, because of, during). For example:

Trotz seiner Krankheit ging er ins Theater. (Despite his illness he went to the theater.)

Describing Things and People

Adjectives modify and describe nouns, and you’ve encountered quite a few of them in German already. In German, adjectives reflect the gender, case, and number of the noun they modify. In this section you’ll learn more about using adjectives with the proper endings.

Antonyms and Other Words of Contrast

Pairs of words that show a contrast are helpful when giving an opinion about something. Is it good or is it bad, in your opinion? Was the play boring or interesting? Did you eat too much or too little roast beef?

The following pairs of words are antonyms or they show a strong contrast.

► **Words of Contrast**

English Pair

beautiful/ugly
big/little
black/white
boring/interesting
cold/hot
dark/bright
dry/wet
fashionable/old-fashioned
fast/slow
find/lose
funny/sad
here/there
high/low
hungry/full
lazy/diligent
long/short
a lot/a little
male/female
near/far
old/new
old/young
smart/stupid
smooth/rough
to ask/to answer
to break/to repair
to give/to take
to laugh/to cry
to live/to die

German Pair

hübsch/hässlich
groß/klein
schwarz/weiß
langweilig/interessant
kalt/heiß
dunkel/hell
trocken/naß
modisch/altmodisch
schnell/langsam
finden/verlieren
lustig/traurig
hier/da (or dort)
hoch/niedrig
hungrig/satt
faul/fleißig
lang/kurz
viel/wenig
männlich/weiblich
nah/weit
alt/neu
alt/jung
klug/dumm
glatt/rau
fragen/antworten
brechen/reparieren
geben/nehmen
lachen/weinen
leben/sterben

English Pair

to love/to hate

to marry/to divorce

to shout/to whisper

to sit/to stand

*German Pair**lieben/hassen**heiraten/scheiden**schreien/flüstern**sitzen/stehe*

To use any of the adjectives above in a simple sentence is easy: *Vater ist hungrig*. (Father is hungry.) However, if you place an adjective before a noun, it will require an ending, depending on the case and gender of the noun it is modifying: *Der hungrige Mann ist sehr krank*. (The hungry man is very sick.) Before you can figure out what adjective ending a word takes, you have to understand the difference between two types of identifying adjectives—*der* words and *ein* words.

Der Words and ein Words

Der words are the definite articles (*der, die, das*) and any other adjectives that act like definite articles with nouns. They are called demonstrative adjectives.

Der Words

- *dieser* (this)
- *jeder* (each)
- *jener* (that)
- *mancher* (many a)
- *solcher* (such)
- *welcher* (which)

You already know the *ein* words: *ein, kein, mein, dein, sein, ihr, unser, euer, Ihr*, and *ihr*.

These words indicate the gender and case of a noun. But you need to compare these two groups of words in order to use adjective endings more accurately. To gener-

alize, you can say that the most common adjective ending in German is *-en*. But when is an adjective ending something other than *-en*?

Der Words

The nominative case (subject of the sentence) is the critical area. In this case the gender of the noun has to be specified. When you use a definite article, that becomes quite clear: *der Lehrer*, *die Lehrerin*, *das Kind*. And when you use an adjective with the definite articles, it always has an *-e* ending in the nominative: *der gute Lehrer* (the good teacher), *die nette Lehrerin* (the nice teacher), *das intelligente Kind* (the intelligent child).

No matter which *der* word you use, the adjective ending will always be just an *-e* in the nominative case.

► Der Words in the Nominative Case

Masculine	Feminine	Neuter
<i>dieser alte Mann</i> (this old man)	<i>diese alte Frau</i> (this old woman)	<i>dieses nette Kind</i> (this nice child)
<i>jeder blaue Teller</i> (each blue plate)	<i>jede blaue Tasse</i> (each blue cup)	<i>jedes blaue Glas</i> (each blue glass)
<i>jener junge Lehrer</i> (that young teacher)	<i>jene junge Lehrerin</i> (that young teacher)	<i>jenes hübsche Mädchen</i> (that pretty girl)
<i>mancher gute Mann</i> (many a good man)	<i>manche gute Frau</i> (many a good woman)	<i>manches gute Kind</i> (many a good child)

Since the feminine and neuter are identical in the nominative and accusative cases, you can assume that the same endings will apply in the accusative.

Ein Words

With *ein* words, gender is shown as an adjective ending, rather than by the article. The final sound of the definite article (*der, die, das*) appears as the adjective ending: *ein guter Mann, eine gute Frau, ein gutes Kind*. Let's look at some further examples.

► Ein Words in the Nominative Case

Masculine	Feminine	Neuter
<i>sein neuer Wagen</i> (his new car)	<i>seine neue Lampe</i> (his new lamp)	<i>sein neues Haus</i> (his new house)
<i>unser junger Freund</i> (our young friend)	<i>unsere junge Freundin</i> (our young friend)	<i>unser altes Buch</i> (our old book)
<i>Ihr roter Hut</i> (your red hat)	<i>Ihre rote Jacke</i> (your red jacket)	<i>Ihr rotes Hemd</i> (your red shirt)

Once again, the feminine and neuter would be identical in the accusative case.

If you understand this idea of gender being shown in the *der* word when using *der* words but gender being shown in the adjective when using *ein* words, then you know German adjectives. All other adjectives that follow *der* or *ein* words will end in *-en*. Let's take a look at that.

► Der Words and Ein Words in All Cases

Case	Masculine	Feminine	Neuter	Plural
Nom.	<i>dieser nette Freund</i>	<i>diese nette Freundin</i>	<i>dieses nette Kind</i>	<i>diese netten Kinder</i>
Nom.	<i>sein netter Freund</i>	<i>seine nette Freundin</i>	<i>sein nettes Kind</i>	<i>seine netten Kinder</i>
Acc.	<i>diesen netten Freund</i>	<i>diese nette Freundin</i>	<i>dieses nette Kind</i>	<i>diese netten Kinder</i>

Case	Masculine	Feminine	Neuter	Plural
Acc.	seinen netten	seine nette	sein nettes	seine netten
	Freund	Freundin	Kind	Kinder
Dat.	diesem netten	dieser netten	diesem	diesen netten
	Freund	Freundin	netten Kind	Kindern
Dat.	seinem netten	seiner netten	seinem	seinen netten
	Freund	Freundin	netten Kind	Kindern
Gen.	dieses netten	dieser netten	dieses	dieser netten
	Freundes	Freundin	netten Kindes	Kinder
Gen.	seines netten	seiner netten	seines	seiner netten
	Freundes	Freundin	netten Kindes	Kinder

Adjectives of plural nouns, whether used with *der* words or *ein* words, have an *-en* ending in all cases: nominative, accusative, dative, and genitive.

Making Comparisons

When you use an adjective, you make a judgment or give an opinion about size, color, or quality of something. But when you want to compare two persons or things, you have to know the “comparative” form of the adjective.

That’s not as complicated as it sounds. When you make a judgment or express an opinion using a comparative adjective, you decide which of two things has more or less of the quality in question. Forming English comparative adjectives is relatively easy: Just add *-er* to the adjective. There are a few spelling rules to worry about, but, in general, most comparative adjectives follow the same pattern: big/bigger.

But longer adjectives—adjectives that come to English from a Latin source—do not add *-er* to form the comparative. Instead, you place the word “more” in front of

the adjective: interesting/more interesting. English also has a few irregular comparative forms: good/better.

German is much the same. The comparative of most adjectives is formed by adding *-er* to the adjective.

► Comparative Endings to German Adjectives

<i>Adjective</i>	+ <i>-er</i>	<i>English</i>
<i>interessant</i>	<i>interessanter</i>	more interesting
<i>komisch</i>	<i>komischer</i>	funnier
<i>laut</i>	<i>lauter</i>	louder
<i>reich</i>	<i>reicher</i>	richer
<i>schön</i>	<i>schöner</i>	nicer

Notice that longer words in German still form their comparative meaning by adding *-er* (*interessanter*) and do not require a different formation like English (more interesting).

Adjectives with an Umlaut vowel (*a, o, u*) and that are composed of only one syllable tend to add an Umlaut in the comparative too.

■ <i>alt</i>	<i>älter</i>	older
■ <i>arm</i>	<i>ärmer</i>	poorer
■ <i>groß</i>	<i>größer</i>	bigger

If the adjective ends in *-er* or *-el*, you drop the *-e* when you add the comparative ending.

■ <i>sauer</i>	<i>saurer</i>	sourer
■ <i>dunkel</i>	<i>dunkler</i>	darker

When you want to show an “equality” between two things or persons, you can use the phrase *so . . . wie . . .* (as . . . as . . .). In this phrase the adjective will not require

an adjective ending and is not changed to its comparative form.

- *groß* *Hans ist so groß wie sein Bruder.*
(Hans is as big as his brother.)

Using in a Comparison

When you compare two things and judge one to be of a greater or lesser degree of a certain quality, you use *als* (than) with the comparative adjective. The same will be true if you use a comparative adverb. In these cases, like the examples above, there is no need for an adjective ending.

- *groß* *Unser Haus ist größer als euer Haus.*
(Our house is bigger than your house.)

Just like English, German has a few peculiar forms to worry about. Just as “good” becomes “better” in English, the adjective *gut* changes to *besser* in the German comparative. There are a few others to think about:

- *gut/besser* *Er spielt besser als ich.*
(He plays better than me.)
- *bald/leher or früher* *Wir fahren früher.*
(We’re leaving [driving] earlier.)
- *gern/lieber* *Hans spielt lieber Schach.*
(Hans prefers to play chess.)
- *hoch/höher* *Der Wolkenkratzer ist höher als die Kirche.*
(The skyscraper is taller [higher] than the church.)
- *viel/mehr* *Sie haben mehr Zeit als wir.*
(They have more time than we do.)

Good... Better... Best

Now that you know the comparative form of adjectives, it's time to learn the superlative degree. The superlative is used to show the person or thing that has the greatest or least degree of a certain quality. In English it is formed by adding *-est* to the adjective or adverb: tall, taller, tallest. Or by using the word "most" with longer adjectives: interesting, more interesting, most interesting.

German is similar. You form the German superlative by adding *-st* to an adjective or adverb.

► Forming the Superlative

Adjective	+ -st	English
<i>klein</i>	<i>kleinst</i>	smallest
<i>schön</i>	<i>schönst</i>	nicest
<i>langsam</i>	<i>langsamst</i>	slowest

If the adjective ends in *-d*, *-t*, *-s*, *-ss*, *-ß*, or *-z*, add an *-e* before putting on the superlative ending. Notice also that the short adjectives also take Umlauts over the letters *a*, *o*, or *u*, just as in the comparative.

But the superlative adjective is a modifier and requires an ending. When it is a predicative adjective (standing alone at the end of a phrase) or an adverb, it is preceded by the preposition *am*: *am kleinsten* (the littlest), *am ältesten* (the oldest), *am schönsten* (the nicest).

There are a few irregular superlatives that you should also know.

► Irregular Superlatives

Positive	Comparative	Superlative	English
<i>groß</i>	<i>größer</i>	<i>am größten</i>	biggest
<i>gut</i>	<i>besser</i>	<i>am besten</i>	best

Positive	Comparative	Superlative	English
<i>hoch</i>	<i>höher</i>	<i>am höchsten</i>	highest
<i>nah</i>	<i>näher</i>	<i>am nächsten</i>	nearest
<i>viel</i>	<i>mehr</i>	<i>am meisten</i>	most

When the comparative or superlative adjective modifies a noun directly, it requires an adjective ending like any other adjective. Remember that the form *am kleinsten* is used as a predicate adjective. For example: *Das ist eine gute Idee!* (That's a good idea.) vs. *Das ist eine bessere Idee!* (That's a better idea.) vs. *Das ist die beste Idee!* (That's the best idea.)

Conjunctions: *ifs*, *Ands*, and *Buts*

A word that connects two or more clauses is a conjunction. You encountered the conjunctions *und* and *oder* in previous chapters. *Und* (and) lets you combine two or more ideas: The boy **and** the girl. Tom is working in the kitchen, **and** Bill is working in the garage. *Oder* (or) tells you what options you have: A book **or** a magazine. You can sleep in the attic, **or** you can sleep on the floor.

The conjunction *aber* (but) puts two ideas together, but it shows a contrast: It's sunny, **but** a storm is brewing. She was very happy, **but** tears streamed down her face.

Some English conjunctions are "and," "but," "or," "because," "that," "if," "as if."

German conjunctions function in the same way, and many of them require no special rules for using them. *Und* (and), *aber* (but), *oder* (or), and *denn* (because) are four such conjunctions, and they put sentences together just like their English counterparts.

- *Sie ist krank. Ich rufe den Arzt an.*
Sie ist krank, und ich rufe den Arzt an.
(She is sick, and I call the doctor.)
- *Sie gibt ihm zwei Dollar. Er sagt nichts.*
Sie gibt ihm zwei Dollar, aber er sagt nichts.
(She gives him two dollars, but he says nothing.)
- *Ich schlafe bis zehn. Ich gehe spät ins Bett.*
Ich schlafe bis zehn, denn ich gehe spät ins Bett.
(I sleep until ten because I go to bed late.)
- *Kannst du hier bleiben?*
Musst du schon nach Hause gehen?
Kannst du hier bleiben oder mußt du schon nach
Hause gehen? (Can you stay here or must you go
home already?)

You'll notice that each of these conjunctions combines two complete sentences. Each one has a subject and a verb, and, just like other sentences with normal word order, the subject comes before the verb in each. However, there are other conjunctions that require a change in the order of the sentence.

Conjunctions That Affect Word Order

German has other conjunctions that are important to know and are used very frequently in the language. Four of these are *dass* (that), *weil* (because), *wenn* (whenever or if), and *als* (when). They act like the other German conjunctions and combine sentences and clauses. But these four are special. When they're used in a sentence, the conjugated verb has to be placed at the very end of the clause in which the conjunction occurs. For example: *Ich wusste nicht, dass du Österreicher bist.* (I didn't know that you are an Austrian.).

Both *denn* and *weil* mean “because.” *Denn* follows the rules of normal word order. *Weil* requires the verb at the end of the clause:

- *Sie ist traurig, denn ihr Vater ist gestorben.* (She is sad because her father died.)
- *Sie ist traurig, weil ihr Vater gestorben ist.* (She is sad because her father died.)

When you wish to convey the meaning of “whenever,” use *wenn*. The conjunction *als* means “when” in the past tense. For example: *Wenn ich in Berlin bin, besuche ich meine Tante.* (Whenever I’m in Berlin, I visit my aunt.) *Als ich in Berlin war, besuchte ich meine Tante.* (When I was in Berlin, I visited my aunt.)

Interrogatives Used as Conjunctions

Besides asking questions, the interrogatives can be used to combine two sentences, often acting as the response to a question: “Who took the newspaper?” “I don’t know who took the newspaper.”

The German interrogatives function in the same way. The only difference is that when they’re used in an indirect response, the conjugated verb becomes the last element in the sentence. For example: *Wer ist im Garten?* *Ich weiß nicht, wer im Garten ist.* (I don’t know who’s in the garden.)

You probably noticed that *wann* is the third German word you’ve learned that can mean “when.” Just remember that *wann* is used to ask questions, *wenn* is used for the meaning “whenever,” and *als* means “when” in the past tense.

05 / Getting Around

Securing a Room

If you're touring Germany, you're not going to want to spend the night on a park bench or curled up in a corner somewhere in an airport. There are always comfortable places to stay with a variety of price ranges throughout the country. Tourism is a big industry in Germany, so a lot of effort goes into providing suitable accommodations for visitors.

The word *Hotel* denotes exactly what it sounds like. This is an obvious place to stay. But just like in the United States, German hotels run the gamut of price range, facilities, and quality. If you're looking for luxury, it's there for you. If you want a cheap place to lay your head for the night, you'll find that, too.

But besides *das Hotel*, there are other places to spend the night, such as an inn. They can be called *Gaststätte*, *Gasthaus*, or *Gasthof*. And in many places, little villages or big cities, you can find a bed-and-breakfast: *Zimmer frei*. And if you're young at heart, a *Jugendherberge* (youth hostel) is a very inexpensive option.

► What You Can Expect in a German Hotel

<i>German Name</i>	<i>English Name</i>
<i>der Aufzug</i>	elevator
<i>das Badetuch</i>	bath towel
<i>die Badewanne</i>	bathtub
<i>die Bettdecke</i>	blanket
<i>die Dusche</i>	shower
<i>das Fax</i>	fax
<i>der Fernseher</i>	TV
<i>der Geldautomat</i>	ATM
<i>der Gepäckträger</i>	porter
<i>die Halbpension</i>	breakfast included
<i>das Handtuch</i>	hand towel
<i>das Kissen</i>	pillow
<i>der Parkplatz</i>	parking lot
<i>der Pförtner</i>	porter, doorkeeper
<i>die Rezeption</i>	reception desk
<i>die Reinigung</i>	cleaners
<i>das Restaurant</i>	restaurant
<i>die Rolltreppe</i>	escalator
<i>der Schlüssel</i>	key
<i>das Schwimmbad</i>	swimming pool
<i>die Toilette</i>	bathroom
<i>die Vollpension</i>	all meals included
<i>die Wechselstube</i>	money exchange office
<i>das Zimmermädchen</i>	maid

When checking in at *die Rezeption*, you ask, “*Haben Sie ein Zimmer frei?*” (“Do you have a room available?”) You can specify *Doppelzimmer* or *Einzelzimmer* (a double or a single room). If you’re bringing along your computer or electric shaver or hair dryer, you might request an *Adapter*, if you haven’t brought your own along. Germany,

like all of Europe, is on 220 volts, not 110 volts like the United States.

Around the House

An interesting category of vocabulary words has to do with the home, household objects, and furniture. You can use these to talk about what's in your house and what goes on inside your four walls. Look at the words listed below and practice using them in sentences you already know.

► ***Eigner Herd ist Goldes Wert.* (There's no place like home.)**

<i>German Phrase</i>	<i>English</i>
<i>aufmachen</i>	to open
<i>aufschließen</i>	to unlock
<i>baden</i>	to take a bath
<i>die Badewanne</i>	bathtub
<i>das Badezimmer</i>	bathroom
<i>der Bücherschrank</i>	bookcase
<i>das Dach</i>	roof
<i>der Dachziegel</i>	roof tile
<i>die Dachstube</i>	attic
<i>die Decke</i>	ceiling
<i>die Dusche</i>	shower
<i>duschen</i>	to take a shower
<i>das Esszimmer</i>	dining room
<i>das Fenster</i>	window
<i>die Fliese</i>	(floor) tile
<i>der Fußboden</i>	floor
<i>der Herd</i>	kitchen range
<i>der Kamin</i>	fireplace
<i>die Küche</i>	kitchen

<i>German Phrase</i>	<i>English</i>
<i>der Kühlschrank</i>	refrigerator
<i>die Lampe</i>	lamp
<i>der Ofen</i>	oven
<i>das Schlafzimmer</i>	bedroom
<i>das Schloss und der Schlüssel</i>	lock and key
<i>hinter Schloss und Riegel</i>	behind lock and key
<i>der Schornstein</i>	chimney
<i>der Schrank</i>	closet
<i>das Sofa</i>	sofa, couch
<i>der Spiegel</i>	mirror
<i>die Stehlampe</i>	floor lamp
<i>der Stuhl</i>	chair
<i>die Terrasse</i>	terrace
<i>der Tisch</i>	table
<i>den Tisch abräumen</i>	to clear the table
<i>den Tisch decken</i>	to set the table
<i>am Tisch sitzen</i>	to sit at the table
<i>die Treppe</i>	stairway
<i>die Tür</i>	door
<i>die Wand</i>	wall
<i>das Wohnzimmer</i>	living room
<i>der Zaun</i>	fence
<i>zumachen</i>	to close
<i>zuschließen</i>	to lock

Kaffee und Kuchen

Did you know that late afternoon is one of the most pleasant times in Germany? That's when families and friends sit down for *Kaffee und Kuchen* (coffee and cake).

Most families actually serve more than just coffee. Depending on the region in Germany and the time of year, you'll find tea, beer, wine, and various soft drinks

on the table. A special treat is a *Bowle*—a punch often filled with fresh fruit.

The pastries served can be just as varied. If *Mutti* hasn't baked them herself, they were probably just brought in from a local *Konditorei*. Here are just some of the things you'll find on the table:

► **The Goodies for *Kaffee und Kuchen***

<i>German Names</i>	<i>English Translation</i>
<i>Kaffee mit Zucker</i>	coffee with sugar
<i>Kaffee mit Sahne</i>	coffee with cream
<i>Tee mit Zucker</i>	tea with sugar
<i>Tee mit Honig</i>	tea with honey
<i>Limonade</i>	lemonade
<i>Schokoladenmilch</i>	chocolate milk
<i>Plätzchen</i>	cookies
<i>Apfelkuchen</i>	apple cake (tart)
<i>Obsttorte</i>	fruit torte
<i>Pflaumentorte</i>	plum torte
<i>Pfirsichtorte</i>	peach torte
<i>Eis</i>	ice cream
<i>Schlagsahne</i>	whipped cream

When you're in Germany, don't miss the event. If you can't enjoy it with a family, go to a *Konditorei*. *Guten Appetit!* Enjoy your food!

Modern Times and Technology in Germany

You already know many words that are the same in both German and English. But here's a special category of words that deal with modern technology. They're mostly English words, picked up by Germans without changes,

but to use them in German, you need to know their gender if they're nouns and their conjugation if they're verbs.

- *die Hotline: Rufen Sie unsere Hotline an!* (Call our hotline.)
- *faxen: Ich möchte etwas faxen.* (I'd like to fax something.)
- *das Fax: Ich bekam ein Fax von ihm.* (I got a fax from him.)
- *das Internet: Das Internet wird immer wichtiger.* (The Internet is getting more and more important.)
- *der Benutzername: Was ist Ihr Benutzername?* (What's your username?)
- *das Passwort: Hast du kein Passwort?* (Don't you have a password?)
- *klicken: Klicken Sie auf eine Kategorie!* (Click on a category.)
- *der Chat-Raum: Dieser Chat-Raum ist dumm.* (This chat-room is stupid.)
- *chatten: Ich kann nicht lange chatten.* (I can't chat for long.)
- *das Domain: Was ist der Domain Name?* (What's the domain name?)
- *die Mail: Ich habe wieder Mail.* (I've got mail again.)
- *die E-Mail: Ich bekam keine E-Mail.* (I didn't get any e-mail.)
- *der Download: Der Download wird zehn Minuten dauern.* (The download will take ten minutes.)
- *online: Ich habe es online bestellt.* (I ordered it online.)
- *der Laserdrucker: Wir haben jetzt einen Laserdrucker in unserem Büro.* (We now have a laser printer in our office.)

- *die DVD: Er hat viele DVDs.* (He has a lot of DVDs.)
- *die CD: Wir haben keine CDs.* (We don't have any CDs.)
- *das Video: Das Video dauert zwei Stunden.* (The video lasts for two hours.)
- *der Scanner: Ich soll einen neuen Scanner kaufen.* (I should buy a new scanner.)
- *der Chip: Jetzt ist der Chip verdorben.* (The chip is ruined now.)

Games and Sports

Did you know that Germans are into fitness and athletics just like Americans? They love games and sports. Not surprisingly, many German words for games and sports are taken directly from English. The list below gives some popular sports along with a sentence that you might hear in a conversation.

- *Basketball (or Korbball): Er spielt gern Basketball.* (He likes playing basketball.)
- *Fahrrad fahren: Wo fahren Sie Fahrrad?* (Where do you go bike riding?)
- *Fußball: Karl spielt gut Fußball.* (Karl plays soccer well.)
- *Golf: Golf ist mein Lieblingssport.* (Golf is my favorite sport.)
- *Handball: Wo spielt ihr Handball?* (Where do you play handball?)
- *joggen: Ich möchte gern joggen.* (I'd like to go jogging.)
- *Karten: Die Jungen spielen Karten.* (The boys are playing cards.)

- *Schach: Sabine spielt gern Schach.* (Sabine likes to play chess.)
- *Schlittschuh laufen: Wir gehen Schlittschuh laufen.* (We're going ice skating.)
- *schwimmen: Schwimmst du gern?* (Do you like swimming?)
- *Ski laufen: Wir gehen Ski laufen.* (We're going skiing.)
- *Tennis: Wir spielen gern Tennis.* (We like playing tennis.)
- *Tischtennis: Er möchte gern Tischtennis spielen.* (He'd like to play Ping-Pong.)

A Love for Animals

An interesting category of words is animals and birds. Whether domestic or exotic, you'll find many animal names in German similar to English. Let's take a look.

► *Tiere und Vögel* (Animals and Birds)

<i>German</i>	<i>English</i>
<i>der Adler</i>	eagle
<i>der Affe</i>	ape, monkey
<i>der Bär</i>	bear
<i>der Elch</i>	elk
<i>der Elefant</i>	elephant
<i>die Ente</i>	duck
<i>der Fuchs</i>	fox
<i>die Gans</i>	goose
<i>der Geier</i>	vulture
<i>die Giraffe</i>	giraffe
<i>der Gorilla</i>	gorilla

<i>German</i>	<i>English</i>
<i>das Huhn</i>	chicken
<i>der Jaguar</i>	jaguar
<i>die Kuh</i>	cow
<i>der Löwe</i>	lion
<i>das Pferd</i>	horse
<i>das Reh</i>	deer
<i>das Schaf</i>	sheep
<i>der Schimpanse</i>	chimpanzee
<i>die Schlange</i>	snake
<i>der Schwan</i>	swan
<i>das Schwein</i>	pig
<i>der Seehund</i>	seal
<i>die Seemöwe</i>	seagull
<i>der Stier</i>	bull
<i>das Stinktier</i>	skunk
<i>die Taube</i>	pigeon, dove
<i>der Tiger</i>	tiger
<i>der Wal(fisch)</i>	whale
<i>das Walross</i>	walrus
<i>der Wolf</i>	wolf
<i>die Ziege</i>	goat

Paying with the Euro

Most of continental Europe is using the *Euro* as its official currency. That includes Germany. The German Mark (its symbol is *DM*) is no longer in use. There are 100 *Cent* in approximately one *Euro*, which corresponds easily to 100 cents in a dollar, and which makes understanding European money quite simple. Compare the following:

► **Dollars and Euros**

<i>American Dollars and Cents</i>	<i>European Euro and Cent</i>
\$5.50	5,50 EUR
\$10.95	10,95 EUR
\$1.25	1,25 EUR

Prices are said with the *Euro* amount first and followed by the number of *Cent*. For 6,10 EUR and 2,05 EUR you would say “*Sechs Euro und zehn Cent*” and “*Zwei Euro und fünf Cent*.”

Be aware that sometimes the letters EUR stand in front of the figure and sometimes behind it. You’ll encounter both: EUR 3,15 and 3,15 EUR. It may also appear with the symbol €: **3,15 €**.

You can ask how much something costs by asking, *Wie viel kostet das?* (How much does that cost?) The reply might be something like, *Das kostet zwei Euro und fünf Cent*.

Appendix A / German to English Dictionary

*Note that German nouns are followed by the following abbreviations: “m.” stands for masculine (*der*), “f.” stands for feminine (*die*), “n.” stands for neuter (*das*), and “pl.” stands for plural (*die*).

<i>abfahren</i>	to depart
<i>abhauen</i>	to get out
<i>abholen</i>	to pick up
<i>Abitur machen</i>	to make the Abitur, graduate
<i>abräumen</i>	to clear (the table)
<i>acht</i>	eight
<i>Achtung, f.</i>	attention
<i>achtzehn</i>	eighteen
<i>achtzig</i>	eighty
<i>Adler, m.</i>	eagle
<i>Affe, m.</i>	ape, monkey
<i>alle</i>	everyone, all
<i>allein</i>	alone
<i>alles</i>	everything, all
<i>Alpen, pl.</i>	Alps

<i>als</i>	as, when, than
<i>als ob</i>	as if
<i>als wenn</i>	as if
<i>Alte, m.</i>	old man
<i>altmodisch</i>	old-fashioned
<i>Aluminium, n.</i>	aluminum
<i>Amerikaner, m.</i>	American
<i>an</i>	at
<i>ankommen</i>	to arrive
<i>annehmen</i>	to assume
<i>anprobieren</i>	to try on
<i>anrufen</i>	to call up
<i>Ansichtskarte, f.</i>	picture postcard
<i>anstatt</i>	instead of
<i>antworten</i>	to answer
<i>Apfel, m.</i>	apple
<i>Apfelkuchen, m.</i>	apple cake, tort
<i>April, m.</i>	April
<i>Arbeit, f.</i>	work
<i>arbeiten</i>	to work
<i>arm</i>	poor
<i>Armbanduhr, f.</i>	wristwatch
<i>Arzt, m.</i>	physician
<i>auch</i>	also, too
<i>auf Wiederhören</i>	good-bye (on the phone)
<i>auf Wiedersehen</i>	good-bye
<i>auf</i>	on, onto
<i>aufhören</i>	to stop, cease
<i>aufmachen</i>	to open
<i>aufschlagen</i>	to open (a book)
<i>aufschließen</i>	to unlock
<i>aufstehen</i>	to stand up, get up

<i>Augen, f.</i>	eyes
<i>August, m.</i>	August
<i>aus</i>	from, out of
<i>ausgeben</i>	to spend (money)
<i>Ausländer, m.</i>	foreigner
<i>Auslandsgespräch, n.</i>	overseas call
<i>außer</i>	except
<i>Ausstellung, f.</i>	exhibition
<i>Austauschschüler, m.</i>	exchange student
<i>Autobahn, f.</i>	super highway
<i>Autounfall, m.</i>	car accident
<i>backen</i>	to bake
<i>Bäcker, m.</i>	baker
<i>Bäckerei, f.</i>	bakery
<i>Badezimmer, n.</i>	bathroom
<i>Badewanne, f.</i>	bathtub
<i>Bahnhof, m.</i>	railroad station
<i>Bahnsteig, m.</i>	platform
<i>Ballonfahren</i>	hot-air ballooning
<i>Bär, m.</i>	bear
<i>Bart, m.</i>	beard
<i>Bauernhof, m.</i>	farm
<i>Bayern</i>	Bavaria
<i>bei</i>	at, by, at the house of
<i>beibringen</i>	to teach
<i>Bein, n.</i>	leg
<i>beinahe</i>	almost
<i>bekommen</i>	to receive, get
<i>Belgien</i>	Belgium
<i>berühmt</i>	famous
<i>besetzt</i>	busy, occupied
<i>besser</i>	better

<i>bestehen (aus)</i>	to consist (of)
<i>bestellen</i>	to order
<i>bestrafen</i>	to punish
<i>besuchen</i>	to visit
<i>Bett, n.</i>	bed
<i>Bibliothek, f.</i>	library
<i>Bier, n.</i>	beer
<i>Billion, f.</i>	trillion
<i>bis</i>	until, as far as
<i>bitte</i>	please
<i>bitten</i>	to ask, request, beg
<i>bitte schön</i>	you're welcome
<i>blau</i>	blue
<i>Blei, n.</i>	lead
<i>bleiben</i>	to stay, remain
<i>Bleistift, m.</i>	pencil
<i>blind</i>	blind
<i>Blume, f.</i>	flower
<i>Bluse, f.</i>	blouse
<i>Boden, m.</i>	floor
<i>Botschaft, f.</i>	message, embassy
<i>brauchen</i>	to need
<i>braun</i>	brown
<i>brechen</i>	to break
<i>Brief, m.</i>	letter
<i>Brille, f.</i>	(eye)glasses
<i>Brot, n.</i>	bread
<i>Brötchen, n.</i>	bread roll
<i>Brücke, f.</i>	bridge
<i>Brunnen, m.</i>	well
<i>Brust, f.</i>	chest
<i>Buch, n.</i>	book

<i>Bücherschrank, m.</i>	bookcase
<i>Bundestag, m.</i>	parliament
<i>Büro, n.</i>	office
<i>Bus, m.</i>	bus
<i>Busen, m.</i>	bosom
<i>Butter, f.</i>	butter
<i>Café, n.</i>	café
<i>Dach, n.</i>	roof
<i>Dachstube, f.</i>	attic
<i>Dachziegel, m.</i>	roof tile
<i>Dame, f.</i>	lady
<i>danken</i>	to thank
<i>danke schön</i>	thank you
<i>Datum, n.</i>	date
<i>Daumen, m.</i>	thumb
<i>Decke, f.</i>	ceiling
<i>dein</i>	your
<i>denken</i>	to think
<i>denn</i>	because, then
<i>Deutschland</i>	Germany
<i>Dezember, m.</i>	December
<i>Dieb, m.</i>	thief
<i>Dienstag, m.</i>	Tuesday
<i>dieser</i>	this
<i>Diskotheek, f.</i>	discotheque
<i>Donnerstag, m.</i>	Thursday
<i>Dorf, n.</i>	village
<i>dort</i>	there
<i>Drachenfliegen</i>	hang-gliding
<i>drei</i>	three
<i>dreißig</i>	thirty
<i>dreizehn</i>	thirteen

<i>dritte</i>	third
<i>du</i>	you (informal)
<i>dumm</i>	stupid
<i>Dummheit, f.</i>	stupidity
<i>dunkel</i>	dark
<i>durch</i>	through
<i>dürfen</i>	may, to be permitted
<i>Dusche, f.</i>	shower
<i>ebenso</i>	just as
<i>Ecke, f.</i>	corner
<i>Ehefrau, f.</i>	wife
<i>eher</i>	sooner, earlier
<i>Eigentum, n.</i>	property
<i>Einbahnstraße, f.</i>	one-way street
<i>einfach</i>	simple, single
<i>Einigkeit, f.</i>	unity
<i>Einkommen, n.</i>	income
<i>einmal</i>	once, one time
<i>eins</i>	one
<i>Einsamkeit, f.</i>	loneliness
<i>einschlafen</i>	to fall asleep
<i>Eis, n.</i>	ice, ice cream
<i>Eisen, m.</i>	iron
<i>Eisenbahn, f.</i>	railroad
<i>Eisenbahnwagen, m.</i>	railroad car
<i>Elch, m.</i>	elk
<i>Elefant, m.</i>	elephant
<i>elf</i>	eleven
<i>Ellenbogen, m.</i>	elbow
<i>Eltern, pl.</i>	parents
<i>empfinden</i>	to perceive
<i>energisch</i>	energetic

<i>Engländer, m.</i>	Englishman
<i>Enkel, m.</i>	grandson
<i>Ente, f.</i>	duck
<i>entlassen</i>	to dismiss, release
<i>er, m.</i>	he, it
<i>Erkältung, f.</i>	cold
<i>erschlagen</i>	to kill, strike dead
<i>erste</i>	first
<i>erwarten</i>	to expect, await
<i>es, n.</i>	it
<i>es gibt</i>	there is, there are
<i>essen</i>	to eat
<i>Essen, n.</i>	food
<i>Esszimmer, n.</i>	dining room
<i>etwas</i>	something
<i>Fabel, f.</i>	fable
<i>fahren</i>	to drive
<i>Fahrrad, n.</i>	bike
<i>fallen</i>	to fall
<i>Familie, f.</i>	family
<i>fangen</i>	to catch
<i>faul</i>	lazy
<i>Februar, m.</i>	February
<i>Feld, n.</i>	field
<i>Fenster, n.</i>	window
<i>Ferngespräch, n.</i>	long-distance call
<i>fernsehen</i>	to watch TV
<i>Fernseher, m.</i>	TV set
<i>finden</i>	to find
<i>Finger, m.</i>	finger
<i>Firma, f.</i>	company
<i>Flasche, f.</i>	bottle

<i>Fleischer, m.</i>	butcher
<i>fleißig</i>	diligent
<i>fliegen</i>	to fly
<i>Fliese, f.</i>	floor tile
<i>Flughafen, m.</i>	airport
<i>Flugkarte, f.</i>	airline ticket
<i>Flugzeug, n.</i>	airplane
<i>flüstern</i>	to whisper
<i>folgen</i>	to follow
<i>fragen</i>	to ask (a question)
<i>Franzose, m.</i>	Frenchman
<i>Frau, f.</i>	woman, Mrs., Ms.
<i>Fräulein, n.</i>	Miss
<i>Freitag, m.</i>	Friday
<i>Freund, m.</i>	friend
<i>Freundin, f.</i>	girlfriend
<i>Fröhlichkeit, f.</i>	joyfulness
<i>früh</i>	early
<i>Frühling, m.</i>	spring
<i>Fuchs, m.</i>	fox
<i>fünf</i>	five
<i>fünfzehn</i>	fifteen
<i>fünfzig</i>	fifty
<i>für</i>	for
<i>furchtbar</i>	terrible
<i>Fuß, m.</i>	foot
<i>Fußball, m.</i>	soccer
<i>Fußboden, m.</i>	floor
<i>Gans, f.</i>	goose
<i>ganz</i>	whole
<i>gar nichts</i>	nothing at all
<i>Garten, m.</i>	garden

<i>geben</i>	to give
<i>geboren</i>	born
<i>gebrauchen</i>	to use
<i>Geburtstag, m.</i>	birthday
<i>gefallen</i>	to please
<i>gegen</i>	against
<i>gehen</i>	to go
<i>gehören</i>	to belong to
<i>Geier, m.</i>	vulture
<i>Geigenspieler, m.</i>	violinist
<i>Gelächter, n.</i>	laughter
<i>gelb</i>	yellow
<i>Geld, n.</i>	money
<i>Gemüse, n.</i>	vegetables
<i>genau</i>	exactly
<i>genug</i>	enough
<i>gerne</i>	gladly
<i>gern haben</i>	to like
<i>geschehen</i>	to occur, happen
<i>Geschenk, n.</i>	gift
<i>Geschmack, m.</i>	taste, flavor
<i>Geschwister, pl.</i>	siblings, brothers and sisters
<i>Gespens, n.</i>	ghost
<i>gesund</i>	well, healthy
<i>Gesundheit, f.</i>	health
<i>geteilt durch</i>	divided by
<i>Getreide, n.</i>	grain
<i>Gewicht, n.</i>	weight
<i>gewinnen</i>	to win, gain
<i>Gewitter, n.</i>	thunderstorm
<i>Giraffe, f.</i>	giraffe
<i>Gitarre, f.</i>	guitar

<i>Glas, n.</i>	glass
<i>glatt</i>	smooth
<i>glauben</i>	to believe
<i>gleich</i>	equal, all the same
<i>Gleitschirmfliegen</i>	paragliding
<i>Glück, n.</i>	luck, fortune
<i>Gold, n.</i>	gold
<i>Gorilla, m.</i>	gorilla
<i>Grad, m.</i>	degree
<i>Gramm, n.</i>	gram
<i>grau</i>	gray
<i>groß</i>	big
<i>Großmutter, f.</i>	grandmother
<i>Großvater, m.</i>	grandfather
<i>grün</i>	green
<i>gut</i>	good, well
<i>guten appetit</i>	have a good meal
<i>gute Reise</i>	have a good trip
<i>Gymnasium, n.</i>	prep school
<i>Haar, n.</i>	hair
<i>halb</i>	half
<i> Hälfte, f.</i>	half
<i>hallo</i>	hey, hello
<i>Hals, m.</i>	neck, throat
<i>Hand, f.</i>	hand
<i>Hase, m.</i>	hare
<i>hassen</i>	to hate
<i>hässlich</i>	ugly
<i>Hauptstadt, f.</i>	capital city
<i>Haus, n.</i>	house
<i>Hausaufgabe, f.</i>	homework
<i>Heft, n.</i>	notebook

<i>heilig</i>	holy
<i>heiraten</i>	to marry
<i>heiß</i>	hot
<i>heißen</i>	to be called
<i>helfen</i>	to help
<i>hell</i>	bright, light
<i>Hemd, n.</i>	shirt
<i>Herbst, m.</i>	fall, autumn
<i>Herd, m.</i>	kitchen range
<i>Herr, m.</i>	man, Mr., gentleman
<i>herrlich</i>	terrific, glorious
<i>heute</i>	today
<i>hier</i>	here
<i>Hilfe, f.</i>	help, aid
<i>hin und wieder</i>	now and then
<i>hinlegen</i>	to put down
<i>hinter</i>	behind
<i>hoch</i>	high, tall
<i>Hochdeutsch</i>	High German
<i>hoffentlich</i>	hopefully
<i>höher</i>	higher, taller
<i>holen</i>	to get, fetch
<i>Honig, m.</i>	honey
<i>hören</i>	to hear, listen
<i>Hose, f.</i>	pants
<i>hübsch</i>	beautiful, handsome
<i>Hüfte, f.</i>	hip
<i>Huhn, n.</i>	chicken
<i>hundert</i>	hundred
<i>hungrig</i>	hungry
<i>ich</i>	I
<i>Idee, f.</i>	idea

<i>Igel, m.</i>	hedgehog
<i>ihr</i>	you (informal pl.)
<i>ihr</i>	her, their
<i>Ihr</i>	your (formal)
<i>immer</i>	always
<i>in</i>	in, into
<i>interessant</i>	interesting
<i>Italien</i>	Italy
<i>Jacke, f.</i>	jacket
<i>Jaguar, m.</i>	jaguar
<i>Jahr, n.</i>	year
<i>Januar, m.</i>	January
<i>jeder</i>	each
<i>jener</i>	that
<i>jetzt</i>	now
<i>joggen</i>	to jog
<i>Jugend, f.</i>	youth
<i>Juli, m.</i>	July
<i>jung</i>	young
<i>Junge, m.</i>	boy
<i>Jüngling, m.</i>	youngster
<i>Juni, m.</i>	June
<i>Kaffee, m.</i>	coffee
<i>Käfig, m.</i>	cage
<i>Kaiser, m.</i>	emperor
<i>Kalender, m.</i>	calendar
<i>Kamin, m.</i>	fireplace
<i>Kämpfe, m.</i>	champion, warrior
<i>kaputt</i>	broken, wrecked
<i>Käse, m.</i>	cheese
<i>kaufen</i>	to buy
<i>Kaufhaus, n.</i>	department store

<i>kein</i>	no, not any
<i>keine Ahnung</i>	no idea
<i>keinerlei</i>	not any
<i>keinesfalls</i>	on no account
<i>keineswegs</i>	by no means
<i>Keller, m.</i>	cellar
<i>kennen</i>	to know, be acquainted
<i>Kilometer, m.</i>	kilometer
<i>Kind, n.</i>	child
<i>Kindheit, f.</i>	childhood
<i>Kinn, n.</i>	chin
<i>Kino, n.</i>	movie theater
<i>Klapperschlange, f.</i>	rattlesnake
<i>Klasse, f.</i>	class
<i>Klavier, n.</i>	piano
<i>Kleid, n.</i>	dress
<i>klein</i>	little
<i>klug</i>	smart, clever
<i>Knabe, m.</i>	boy, lad
<i>Knie, n.</i>	knee
<i>Kolonie, f.</i>	colony
<i>kornisch</i>	funny, comical
<i>kommen</i>	to come
<i>Konditorei, f.</i>	pastry shop
<i>König, m.</i>	king
<i>können</i>	can, to be able
<i>Konzert, n.</i>	concert
<i>Kopf, m.</i>	head
<i>Krähc, f.</i>	crow
<i>Kram, m.</i>	mess
<i>krank</i>	sick
<i>Krankenhaus, n.</i>	hospital

<i>Krankenpfleger, m.</i>	male nurse
<i>Krankenschwester, f.</i>	nurse
<i>Krankheit, f.</i>	illness
<i>Kreide, f.</i>	chalk
<i>Krieg, m.</i>	war
<i>Kronprinz, m.</i>	crown prince
<i>Küche, f.</i>	kitchen
<i>Kuh, f.</i>	cow
<i>kühl</i>	cool
<i>Kühlschrank, m.</i>	refrigerator
<i>Künstler, m.</i>	artist
<i>kurz</i>	short
<i>Kusine, f.</i>	cousin
<i>Küste, f.</i>	coast
<i>lachen</i>	to laugh
<i>Laden, m.</i>	store, shop
<i>Landschaft, f.</i>	landscape
<i>lang</i>	long
<i>langsam</i>	slow
<i>langweilig</i>	boring
<i>lassen</i>	to let
<i>laufen</i>	to run
<i>laut</i>	loud, noisy
<i>leben</i>	to live
<i>Lehrer, m.</i>	teacher
<i>Lehrling, m.</i>	apprentice
<i>leider</i>	unfortunately
<i>leise</i>	quiet
<i>Leiste, f.</i>	groin
<i>lernen</i>	to learn
<i>lesen</i>	to read
<i>letzte</i>	last

<i>Leute, pl.</i>	people
<i>lieben</i>	to love
<i>lieber</i>	preferably
<i>Löffel, m.</i>	spoon
<i>Lokal, n.</i>	bar
<i>Löwe, m.</i>	lion
<i>Luftschiff, n.</i>	dirigible (Zeppelin)
<i>machen</i>	to do, make
<i>mach's gut</i>	take care, so long
<i>Mädchen, n.</i>	girl
<i>Magen, m.</i>	stomach
<i>Mai, m.</i>	May
<i>Mal, n.</i>	time, times
<i>mancher</i>	many a
<i>männlich</i>	masculine
<i>Mantel, m.</i>	coat
<i>Markt, m.</i>	market
<i>März, m.</i>	March
<i>Matrose, m.</i>	sailor
<i>Meerschweinchen, n.</i>	guinea pig
<i>mehr</i>	more
<i>mein</i>	my
<i>meinen</i>	to mean
<i>Mensch, m.</i>	man, human
<i>Messing, n.</i>	brass
<i>Metzger, m.</i>	butcher
<i>Metzgerei, f.</i>	butcher shop
<i>Milch, f.</i>	milk
<i>Milliarde, f.</i>	billion
<i>Minute, f.</i>	minute
<i>mit</i>	with
<i>mitkommen</i>	to come along

<i>Mittag, m.</i>	noon, midday
<i>Mitternacht, f.</i>	midnight
<i>Mittwoch, m.</i>	Wednesday
<i>Mobiltelefon, n.</i>	mobile phone, cell phone
<i>modisch</i>	fashionable
<i>mögen</i>	to like
<i>Montag, m.</i>	Monday
<i>morgen</i>	tomorrow
<i>Morgen, m.</i>	morning
<i>müde</i>	tired
<i>Mund, m.</i>	mouth
<i>Münzeinwurf, m.</i>	coin slot
<i>Museum, n.</i>	museum
<i>Musik, f.</i>	music
<i>müssen</i>	must, have to
<i>Mutter, f.</i>	mother
<i>nach</i>	after, to
<i>nach Hause</i>	home(ward)
<i>Nachricht, f.</i>	news, message
<i>nachschlagen</i>	to look up (in a book)
<i>nächste</i>	next
<i>nah</i>	near
<i>Nase, f.</i>	nose
<i>Nashorn, n.</i>	rhinoceros
<i>naß</i>	wet
<i>Natur, f.</i>	nature
<i>natürlich</i>	naturally
<i>neben</i>	next to
<i>Neffe, m.</i>	nephew
<i>nehmen</i>	to take
<i>nervös</i>	nervous
<i>nett</i>	nice

<i>neu</i>	new
<i>Neuling, m.</i>	novice
<i>neun</i>	nine
<i>neunzehn</i>	nineteen
<i>neunzig</i>	ninety
<i>nicht</i>	not
<i>Nichte, f.</i>	niece
<i>nichtsdestoweniger</i>	nonetheless
<i>nie</i>	never
<i>Niedersachsen</i>	Lower Saxony
<i>niedrig</i>	low
<i>niemals</i>	never
<i>niemand</i>	no one
<i>Niemandsland</i>	no man's land
<i>Nilpferd, n.</i>	hippo
<i>nirgendwo</i>	nowhere
<i>noch</i>	still, yet
<i>November, m.</i>	November
<i>Null, f.</i>	zero
<i>nur</i>	only
<i>Obsttorte, f.</i>	fruit torte
<i>Ochse, m.</i>	ox
<i>oder</i>	or
<i>Ofen, m.</i>	oven
<i>ohne</i>	without
<i>Ohr, n.</i>	ear
<i>Oktober, m.</i>	October
<i>Oma, f.</i>	grandma
<i>Onkel, m.</i>	uncle
<i>Opa, m.</i>	grandpa
<i>Oper, f.</i>	opera
<i>Ortsgespräch, n.</i>	local call

<i>Österreich</i>	Austria
<i>Papier, n.</i>	paper
<i>Park, m.</i>	park
<i>passieren</i>	to happen
<i>Passwort, n.</i>	password
<i>perfekt</i>	perfect
<i>Pfeife, f.</i>	pipe
<i>Pferd, n.</i>	horse
<i>Pflanze, f.</i>	plant
<i>Pfund, n.</i>	pound, half a kilo
<i>Plattdeutsch</i>	Low German
<i>Platz, m.</i>	(market) square, theater seat
<i>Poesie, f.</i>	poetry
<i>Polen</i>	Poland
<i>Polizist, m.</i>	policeman
<i>populär</i>	popular
<i>Post, f.</i>	post office, postal system
<i>Postkarte, f.</i>	postcard
<i>Preis, m.</i>	price, prize
<i>Prinzessin, f.</i>	princess
<i>Prüfung, f.</i>	test
<i>Qualität, f.</i>	quality
<i>Quatsch, m.</i>	nonsense
<i>Radio, n.</i>	radio
<i>rauchen</i>	to smoke
<i>Raucherabteil, n.</i>	smoking compartment
<i>rauh</i>	rough
<i>recht</i>	right
<i>Regen, m.</i>	rain
<i>regnen</i>	to rain
<i>regnerisch</i>	rainy
<i>Reh, n.</i>	deer

<i>reich</i>	rich
<i>Reich, n.</i>	empire
<i>Reichstag, m.</i>	parliament building in Berlin
<i>Reinheit, f.</i>	purity
<i>Reisebüro, n.</i>	travel agency
<i>Reiseplan, m.</i>	itinerary
<i>Rennwagen, m.</i>	racing car
<i>reparieren</i>	to repair
<i>Restaurant, n.</i>	restaurant
<i>Richter, m.</i>	judge
<i>richtig</i>	correct, right
<i>Roman, m.</i>	novel
<i>Rose, f.</i>	rose
<i>rot</i>	red
<i>Rücken, m.</i>	back
<i>ruhig</i>	quiet, calm
<i>Russin, f.</i>	Russian woman
<i>sagen</i>	to say
<i>Sahne, f.</i>	cream
<i>Salz und Pfeffer</i>	salt and pepper
<i>Samstag, m.</i>	Saturday
<i>Sänger, m.</i>	singer
<i>satt</i>	full, satiated
<i>Sattel, m.</i>	saddle
<i>Satz, m.</i>	sentence
<i>sauber</i>	clean
<i>sauer</i>	sour
<i>Schach spielen</i>	to play chess
<i>schade</i>	too bad
<i>Schaf, n.</i>	sheep
<i>Schauspiel, n.</i>	play
<i>Schauspieler, m.</i>	actor

<i>scheiden</i>	to divorce
<i>schicken</i>	to send
<i>Schimpanse, m.</i>	chimpanzee
<i>schlafen</i>	to sleep
<i>Schlafzimmer, n.</i>	bedroom
<i>Schlagsahne, f.</i>	whipped cream
<i>Schlange, f.</i>	snake
<i>schlecht</i>	bad
<i>Schlittschuh laufen</i>	to ice skate
<i>Schloß, n.</i>	lock, palace
<i>Schlüssel, m.</i>	key
<i>Schnee, m.</i>	snow
<i>schnell</i>	fast
<i>Schokolade, f.</i>	chocolate
<i>schon</i>	already
<i>Schornstein, m.</i>	chimney
<i>Schrank, m.</i>	cupboard
<i>schreiben</i>	to write
<i>schreien</i>	to shout, scream
<i>Schule, f.</i>	school
<i>Schüler, m.</i>	pupil
<i>Schuljahr, n.</i>	school year
<i>Schulter, f.</i>	shoulder
<i>schwach</i>	weak
<i>Schwager, m.</i>	brother-in-law
<i>Schwägerin, f.</i>	sister-in-law
<i>Schwan, m.</i>	swan
<i>schwarz</i>	black
<i>Schwarzwald, m.</i>	the Black Forest
<i>Schweden</i>	Sweden
<i>Schwein, n.</i>	pig
<i>Schweiz, f.</i>	Switzerland

<i>Schwester, f.</i>	sister
<i>Schwiegermutter, f.</i>	mother-in-law
<i>schwimmen</i>	to swim
<i>sechs</i>	six
<i>sechzehn</i>	sixteen
<i>sechzig</i>	sixty
<i>See, f.</i>	sea
<i>See, m.</i>	lake
<i>Seehund, m.</i>	seal
<i>Seemöwe, f.</i>	seagull
<i>Segelfliegen</i>	flying gliders
<i>sehen</i>	to see
<i>sehr</i>	very
<i>sein</i>	his, its (poss. pronoun)
<i>sein</i>	to be
<i>seit</i>	since
<i>senden</i>	to send
<i>September, m.</i>	September
<i>sich</i>	reflexive "oneself"
<i>sie (sing.)</i>	she, it
<i>sie (pl.)</i>	they
<i>Sie</i>	you (formal)
<i>sieben</i>	seven
<i>siebzehn</i>	seventeen
<i>siebzig</i>	seventy
<i>Silber, n.</i>	silver
<i>sitzen</i>	to sit
<i>Ski laufen</i>	to ski
<i>so</i>	so, as
<i>Sofa, n.</i>	sofa, couch
<i>Sohn, m.</i>	son
<i>solcher</i>	such a

<i>Soldat, m.</i>	soldier
<i>sollen</i>	should, ought to
<i>Sommer, m.</i>	summer
<i>Sonnabend, m.</i>	Saturday
<i>sonnig</i>	sunny
<i>Sonntag, m.</i>	Sunday
<i>Spanier, m.</i>	Spaniard
<i>spät</i>	late
<i>Speisekarte, f.</i>	menu
<i>Sperling, m.</i>	sparrow
<i>Spiegel, m.</i>	mirror
<i>Spiel, n.</i>	game
<i>spielen</i>	to play
<i>Sprache, f.</i>	language
<i>sprechen</i>	to speak
<i>Stadt, f.</i>	city
<i>Stahl, m.</i>	steel
<i>stark</i>	strong
<i>stehen bleiben</i>	to remain standing
<i>Stehlampe, f.</i>	floor lamp
<i>steigen</i>	climb
<i>Stellung, f.</i>	position
<i>Stempel, m.</i>	stamp, seal
<i>sterben</i>	to die
<i>Stier, m.</i>	bull
<i>Stimme, f.</i>	voice
<i>Stinktief, n.</i>	skunk
<i>Storch, m.</i>	stork
<i>Studium, n.</i>	study
<i>Stuhl, m.</i>	chair
<i>Stunde, f.</i>	hour
<i>Sturm, m.</i>	storm

<i>Suche, f.</i>	search
<i>suchen</i>	to look for, seek
<i>süß</i>	sweet
<i>Tag, m.</i>	day
<i>tagsüber</i>	during the day
<i>Tante, f.</i>	aunt
<i>Tasche, f.</i>	pocket
<i>Taschenuhr, f.</i>	pocket watch
<i>Tasse, f.</i>	cup
<i>Taube, f.</i>	pigeon, dove
<i>tausend</i>	thousand
<i>Tee, m.</i>	tea
<i>Telefonbuch, n.</i>	telephone book
<i>Telefonhörer, m.</i>	receiver
<i>telefonieren</i>	to telephone
<i>Telefonzelle, f.</i>	telephone booth
<i>Teller, m.</i>	plate
<i>Temperatur, f.</i>	temperature
<i>Teppich, m.</i>	rug, carpet
<i>Terrasse, f.</i>	terrace
<i>Theater, n.</i>	theater
<i>Theorie, f.</i>	theory
<i>Tiger, m.</i>	tiger
<i>Tischtennis spielen</i>	to play Ping-Pong
<i>Tochter, f.</i>	daughter
<i>toll</i>	great, crazy
<i>Tomaten, pl.</i>	tomatoes
<i>töten</i>	to kill
<i>tragen</i>	to carry, wear
<i>traurig</i>	sad
<i>treffen</i>	to meet
<i>Treppe, f.</i>	stairs

<i>trinken</i>	to drink
<i>trocken</i>	dry
<i>trotz</i>	in spite of
<i>Tschüss</i>	bye, so long
<i>Tür, f.</i>	door
<i>Türkei, f.</i>	Turkey
<i>über</i>	over, above
<i>übermorgen</i>	day after tomorrow
<i>Übersetzung, f.</i>	translation
<i>überwiegen</i>	prevail
<i>Übung, f.</i>	exercise
<i>Uhr, f.</i>	clock
<i>um</i>	at, around
<i>umbringen</i>	to murder
<i>Umgangssprache, f.</i>	colloquial language
<i>und</i>	and
<i>Universität, f.</i>	university
<i>unter</i>	under
<i>unterwegs</i>	on the way
<i>ursprünglich</i>	original
<i>verbergen (sich)</i>	to hide
<i>verbringen</i>	to spend (time)
<i>verdorben</i>	ruined, spoiled
<i>Vereinigten Staaten, pl.</i>	United States
<i>vergessen</i>	to forget
<i>verkaufen</i>	to sell
<i>verlieren</i>	to lose
<i>versuchen</i>	to try
<i>Verwandten, pl.</i>	relatives
<i>Vetter, m.</i>	cousin
<i>viel</i>	much
<i>vier</i>	four

<i>Viertel, n.</i>	quarter
<i>vierzehn</i>	fourteen
<i>vierzig</i>	forty
<i>von</i>	from, of
<i>vor</i>	in front of, before
<i>vor allen Dingen</i>	above all
<i>vorgestern</i>	day before yesterday
<i>Vormittag, m.</i>	morning
<i>Vorwahl, f.</i>	area code
<i>Wagen, m.</i>	car
<i>wählen</i>	to dial, to select
<i>während</i>	during
<i>Wahrheit, f.</i>	truth
<i>Wal(fisch), m.</i>	whale
<i>Walross, n.</i>	walrus
<i>Wand, f.</i>	wall
<i>Wanduhr, f.</i>	wall clock
<i>warm</i>	warm
<i>warten</i>	to wait
<i>warum</i>	why
<i>was</i>	what
<i>was für</i>	what kind of
<i>Wasser, n.</i>	water
<i>Wecker, m.</i>	alarm clock
<i>weder . . . noch</i>	neither . . . nor
<i>wegen</i>	because of
<i>weiblich</i>	feminine
<i>weil</i>	because
<i>Wein, m.</i>	wine
<i>weinen</i>	to cry
<i>weiß</i>	white
<i>welcher</i>	which

<i>wem</i>	whom (dat.)
<i>wen</i>	whom (acc.)
<i>wenig</i>	little (amount)
<i>wenn</i>	when, whenever, if
<i>wer</i>	who
<i>werden</i>	to become, get, will, shall
<i>wessen</i>	whose
<i>Wetter, n.</i>	weather
<i>Wetterbericht, m.</i>	weather report
<i>wichtig</i>	important
<i>wider</i>	against
<i>wie</i>	how
<i>wieder</i>	again
<i>wild</i>	wild
<i>Wind, m.</i>	wind
<i>Winter, m.</i>	winter
<i>wir</i>	we
<i>Wirtschaft, f.</i>	economy
<i>wissen</i>	to know
<i>Wissenschaft, f.</i>	science
<i>wo</i>	where
<i>Woche, f.</i>	week
<i>Weekenende, n.</i>	weekend
<i>woher</i>	from where
<i>wohin</i>	where (to)
<i>wohnen</i>	to live, reside
<i>Wohnung, f.</i>	apartment
<i>Wohnzimmer, n.</i>	living room
<i>Wolf, m.</i>	wolf
<i>Wolke, f.</i>	cloud
<i>wollen</i>	to want
<i>Wurst, f.</i>	sausage

<i>wütend</i>	furious
<i>Zahnarzt, m.</i>	dentist
<i>Zaun, m.</i>	fence
<i>Zaunkönig, m.</i>	wren
<i>Zehe, f.</i>	toe
<i>zehn</i>	ten
<i>Zeit, f.</i>	time
<i>Zeitschrift, f.</i>	magazine
<i>Zeitung, f.</i>	newspaper
<i>zeitweise</i>	from time to time
<i>zerbrechen</i>	to break to bits
<i>zerstören</i>	to destroy
<i>Ziege, f.</i>	goat
<i>Zinn, n.</i>	tin
<i>zu</i>	to
<i>zu Besuch</i>	for a visit
<i>Zug, m.</i>	train
<i>zu Hause</i>	at home
<i>zumachen</i>	to close
<i>zurück</i>	back
<i>zuschließen</i>	to lock
<i>zwanzig</i>	twenty
<i>zwei</i>	two
<i>zwischen</i>	between
<i>zwo</i>	two, same as zwei
<i>zwölf</i>	twelve

Appendix B / English to German Dictionary

*Note that German nouns are followed by the-following abbreviations: "m." stands for masculine (*der*), "f." stands for feminine (*die*), "n." stands for neuter (*das*), and "pl." stands for plural (*die*).

<i>above all</i>	vor allen Dingen
<i>actor</i>	Schauspieler, m.
<i>after</i>	nach
<i>again</i>	wieder
<i>against</i>	gegen, wider
<i>airline ticket</i>	Flugkarte, f.
<i>airplane</i>	Flugzeug, n.
<i>airport</i>	Flughafen, m.
<i>alarm clock</i>	Wecker, m.
<i>almost</i>	beinahe
<i>alone</i>	allein
<i>Alps</i>	Alpen, pl.
<i>already</i>	schon
<i>also, too</i>	auch
<i>aluminum</i>	Aluminium, n.
<i>always</i>	immer

<i>American</i>	Amerikaner, m.
<i>and</i>	und
<i>answer</i>	antworten
<i>apartment</i>	Wohnung, f.
<i>ape, monkey</i>	Affe, m.
<i>apple</i>	Apfel, m.
<i>apple cake, tart</i>	Apfelkuchen, m.
<i>apprentice</i>	Lehrling, m.
<i>April</i>	April, m.
<i>area code</i>	Vorwahl, f.
<i>around</i>	um
<i>arrive</i>	ankommen
<i>artist</i>	Künstler, m.
<i>as, than</i>	als
<i>as if</i>	als ob, als wenn
<i>ask (a question)</i>	fragen
<i>ask, request</i>	bitten
<i>assume</i>	annehmen
<i>at</i>	an
<i>at, by, at the house of</i>	bei
<i>at home</i>	zu Hause
<i>attention</i>	Achtung, f.
<i>attic</i>	Dachstube, f.
<i>August</i>	August, m.
<i>aunt</i>	Tante, f.
<i>Austria</i>	Österreich
<i>autumn</i>	Herbst, m.
<i>back</i>	Rücken, m.
<i>back</i>	zurück
<i>bad</i>	schlecht
<i>bake</i>	backen
<i>baker</i>	Bäcker, m.
<i>bakery</i>	Bäckerei, f.
<i>bar</i>	Lokal, n.
<i>bathroom</i>	Badezimmer, n.

<i>bathtub</i>	Badewanne, f.
<i>Bavaria</i>	Bayern
<i>be</i>	sein
<i>bear</i>	Bär, m.
<i>beard</i>	Bart, m.
<i>beautiful</i>	hübsch
<i>be called</i>	heißen
<i>because</i>	denn, weil
<i>because of</i>	wegen
<i>become, get</i>	werden
<i>bed</i>	Bett, n.
<i>bedroom</i>	Schlafzimmer, n.
<i>beer</i>	Bier, n.
<i>behind</i>	hinter
<i>Belgium</i>	Belgien
<i>believe</i>	glauben
<i>belong</i>	gehören
<i>better</i>	besser
<i>between</i>	zwischen
<i>big</i>	groß
<i>bike</i>	Fahrrad, n.
<i>billion</i>	Milliarde, f.
<i>birthday</i>	Geburtstag, m.
<i>black</i>	schwarz
<i>Black Forest</i>	Schwarzwald, m.
<i>blind</i>	blind
<i>blouse</i>	Bluse, f.
<i>blue</i>	blau
<i>book</i>	Buch, n.
<i>bookcase</i>	Bücherschrank, m.
<i>boring</i>	langweilig
<i>born</i>	geboren
<i>bosom</i>	Busen, m.
<i>bottle</i>	Flasche, f.
<i>boy</i>	Junge, m.

<i>brass</i>	Messing, n.
<i>bread</i>	Brot, n.
<i>bread roll</i>	Brötchen, n.
<i>break</i>	brechen
<i>break to bits</i>	zerbrechen
<i>bridge</i>	Brücke, f.
<i>bright</i>	hell
<i>broken, wrecked</i>	kaputt
<i>brother-in-law</i>	Schwager, m.
<i>brothers and sisters</i>	Geschwister, pl.
<i>brown</i>	braun
<i>bull</i>	Stier, m.
<i>bus</i>	Bus, m.
<i>busy, occupied</i>	besetzt
<i>butcher</i>	Fleischer, m.
<i>butcher</i>	Metzger, m.
<i>butcher shop</i>	Metzgerei, f.
<i>butter</i>	Butter, f.
<i>buy</i>	kaufen
<i>bye, so long</i>	Tschüs
<i>by no means</i>	keineswegs
<i>café</i>	Café, n.
<i>cage</i>	Käfig, m.
<i>calendar</i>	Kalender, m.
<i>call up</i>	anrufen
<i>calm, quiet</i>	ruhig
<i>can, be able</i>	können
<i>capital city</i>	Hauptstadt, f.
<i>car</i>	Wagen, m.
<i>car accident</i>	Autounfall, m.
<i>carry</i>	tragen
<i>catch</i>	fangen
<i>ceiling</i>	Decke, f.
<i>cellar</i>	Keller, m.
<i>chair</i>	Stuhl, m.

<i>chalk</i>	Kreide, f.
<i>champion, warrior</i>	Kämpfe, m.
<i>cheese</i>	Käse, m.
<i>chest</i>	Brust, f.
<i>chicken</i>	Huhn, n.
<i>child</i>	Kind, n.
<i>childhood</i>	Kindheit, f.
<i>chimney</i>	Schornstein, m.
<i>chimpanzee</i>	Schimpanse, m.
<i>chin</i>	Kinn, n.
<i>chocolate</i>	Schokolade, f.
<i>city</i>	Stadt, f.
<i>class</i>	Klasse, f.
<i>clean</i>	sauber
<i>clear (the table)</i>	abräumen
<i>climb</i>	steigen
<i>clock</i>	Uhr, f.
<i>close</i>	zumachen
<i>closet</i>	Schrank, m.
<i>cloud</i>	Wolke, f.
<i>coast</i>	Küste, f.
<i>coat</i>	Mantel, m.
<i>coffee</i>	Kaffee, m.
<i>coin slot</i>	Münzeinwurf, m.
<i>cold</i>	Erkältung, f.
<i>colloquial language</i>	Umgangssprache, f.
<i>colony</i>	Kolonie, f.
<i>come</i>	kommen
<i>come along</i>	mitkommen
<i>company</i>	Firma, f.
<i>concert</i>	Konzert, n.
<i>consist (of)</i>	bestehen (aus)
<i>cool</i>	kühl
<i>corner</i>	Ecke, f.
<i>correct</i>	richtig

<i>cousin</i>	Kusine, f., Vetter, m.
<i>cow</i>	Kuh, f.
<i>cream</i>	Sahne, f.
<i>crow</i>	Krähē, f.
<i>crown prince</i>	Kronprinz, m.
<i>cry</i>	weinen
<i>cup</i>	Tasse, f.
<i>dark</i>	dunkel
<i>date</i>	Datum, n.
<i>daughter</i>	Tochter, f.
<i>day</i>	Tag, m.
<i>day after tomorrow</i>	übermorgen
<i>day before yesterday</i>	vorgestern
<i>December</i>	Dezember, m.
<i>deer</i>	Reh, n.
<i>degree</i>	Grad, m.
<i>dentist</i>	Zahnarzt, m.
<i>depart</i>	abfahren
<i>department store</i>	Kaufhaus, n.
<i>destroy</i>	zerstören
<i>dial, select</i>	wählen
<i>die</i>	sterben
<i>diligent</i>	fleißig
<i>dining room</i>	Esszimmer, n.
<i>dirigible (Zeppelin)</i>	Luftschiff, n.
<i>discotheque</i>	Diskotheke, f.
<i>dismiss</i>	entlassen
<i>divided by</i>	geteilt durch
<i>divorce</i>	scheiden
<i>do, make</i>	machen
<i>door</i>	Tür, f.
<i>dress</i>	Kleid n.
<i>drink</i>	trinken
<i>drive</i>	fahren
<i>dry</i>	trocken

<i>duck</i>	Ente, f.
<i>during</i>	während
<i>during the day</i>	tagsüber
<i>each</i>	jeder
<i>eagle</i>	Adler, m.
<i>ear</i>	Ohr, n.
<i>early</i>	früh
<i>eat</i>	essen
<i>economy</i>	Wirtschaft, f.
<i>eight</i>	acht
<i>eighteen</i>	achtzehn
<i>eighty</i>	achtzig
<i>elbow</i>	Ellenbogen, m.
<i>elephant</i>	Elefant, m.
<i>eleven</i>	elf
<i>elk</i>	Elch, m.
<i>emperor</i>	Kaiser, m.
<i>empire</i>	Reich, n.
<i>energetic</i>	energisch
<i>Englishman</i>	Engländer, m.
<i>enough</i>	genug
<i>equal</i>	gleich
<i>everyone, all</i>	alle
<i>everything, all</i>	alles
<i>exactly</i>	genau
<i>except</i>	außer
<i>exchange student</i>	Austauschschüler, m.
<i>exercise</i>	Übung, f.
<i>exhibition</i>	Ausstellung, f.
<i>expect, await</i>	erwarten
<i>eyes</i>	Augen, f.
<i>fable</i>	Fabel, f.
<i>fall</i>	fallen
<i>fall asleep</i>	einschlafen
<i>family</i>	Familie, f.

<i>famous</i>	berühmt
<i>farm</i>	Bauernhof, m.
<i>fashionable</i>	modisch
<i>fast</i>	schnell
<i>February</i>	Februar, m.
<i>feminine</i>	weiblich
<i>fence</i>	Zaun, m.
<i>field</i>	Feld, n.
<i>fifteen</i>	fünfzehn
<i>fifty</i>	fünfzig
<i>find</i>	finden
<i>finger</i>	Finger, m.
<i>fireplace</i>	Kamin, m.
<i>first</i>	erste
<i>five</i>	fünf
<i>floor</i>	Boden, m., Fußboden, m.
<i>floor lamp</i>	Stehlampe, f.
<i>floor tile</i>	Fliese, f.
<i>flower</i>	Blume, f.
<i>fly</i>	fliegen
<i>flying gliders</i>	Segelfliegen
<i>follow</i>	folgen
<i>food</i>	Essen, n.
<i>foot</i>	Fuß, m.
<i>for</i>	für
<i>for a visit</i>	zu Besuch
<i>foreigner</i>	Ausländer, m.
<i>forget</i>	vergessen
<i>forty</i>	vierzig
<i>four</i>	vier
<i>fourteen</i>	vierzehn
<i>fox</i>	Fuchs, m.
<i>Frenchman</i>	Franzose, m.
<i>Friday</i>	Freitag, m.
<i>friend</i>	Freund, m.

<i>from, of</i>	von
<i>from, out of</i>	aus
<i>from time to time</i>	zeitweise
<i>from where</i>	woher
<i>fruit torte</i>	Obsttorte, f.
<i>full, satiated</i>	satt
<i>funny</i>	lustig
<i>furious</i>	wütend
<i>game</i>	Spiel, n.
<i>garden</i>	Garten, m.
<i>gentleman</i>	Herr, m.
<i>Germany</i>	Deutschland
<i>get, fetch</i>	holen
<i>get out</i>	abhauen
<i>ghost</i>	Gespens, n.
<i>gift</i>	Geschenk, n.
<i>giraffe</i>	Giraffe, f.
<i>girl</i>	Mädchen, n.
<i>girlfriend</i>	Freundin, f.
<i>give</i>	geben
<i>gladly</i>	gerne
<i>glass</i>	Glas, n.
<i>glasses</i>	Brille, f.
<i>go</i>	gehen
<i>goat</i>	Ziege, f.
<i>gold</i>	Gold, n.
<i>good</i>	gut
<i>good-bye</i>	auf Wiedersehen
<i>good-bye (on the phone)</i>	auf Wiederhören
<i>goose</i>	Gans, f.
<i>gorilla</i>	Gorilla, m.
<i>grain</i>	Getreide, n.
<i>gram</i>	Gramm, n.
<i>grandfather</i>	Großvater, m.
<i>grandma</i>	Oma, f.

*grandmother**grandpa**grandson**gray**great, crazy**green**groin**guitar**hair**half**half**hand**handsome**hang-gliding**happen**hare**hate**have a good meal**he, it, m.**head**health**healthy**hear**hedgehog**help**help**her**here**hey, hello**hide**high**higher**High German**hip**hippo*

Großmutter, f.

Opa, m.

Enkel, m.

grau

toll

grün

Leiste, f.

Gitarre, f.

Haar, n.

halb

Hälfte, f.

Hand, f.

hübsch

Drachenfliegen

geschehen

Hase, m.

hassen

guten appetit

er

Kopf, m.

Gesundheit, f.

gesund

hören

Igel, m.

helfen

Hilfe, f.

ihr

hier

hallo

verbergen (sich)

hoch

höher

Hochdeutsch

Hüfte, f.

Nilpferd, n.

<i>his</i>	sein
<i>holy</i>	heilig
<i>home(ward)</i>	nach Hause
<i>homework</i>	Hausaufgabe, f.
<i>honey</i>	Honig, m.
<i>hopefully</i>	hoffentlich
<i>horse</i>	Pferd, n.
<i>hospital</i>	Krankenhaus, n.
<i>hot</i>	heiß
<i>hot-air ballooning</i>	Ballonfahren
<i>hour</i>	Stunde, f.
<i>house</i>	Haus, n.
<i>how</i>	wie
<i>human</i>	Mensch, m.
<i>hundred</i>	hundert
<i>hungry</i>	hungrig
<i>I</i>	ich
<i>ice, ice cream</i>	Eis, n.
<i>ice skate</i>	Schlittschuh laufen
<i>idea</i>	Idee, f.
<i>if</i>	wenn
<i>illness</i>	Krankheit, f.
<i>important</i>	wichtig
<i>in, into</i>	in
<i>income</i>	Einkommen, n.
<i>in front of, before</i>	vor
<i>in spite of</i>	trotz
<i>instead of</i>	anstatt
<i>interesting</i>	interessant
<i>iron</i>	Eisen, n.
<i>it</i>	es, n.
<i>Italy</i>	Italien
<i>itinerary</i>	Reiseplan, m.
<i>its</i>	sein
<i>jacket</i>	Jacke, f.

<i>jaguar</i>	Jaguar, m.
<i>January</i>	Januar, m.
<i>jog</i>	joggen
<i>joyfulness</i>	Fröhlichkeit, f.
<i>judge</i>	Richter, m.
<i>July</i>	Juli, m.
<i>June</i>	Juni, m.
<i>just as</i>	ebenso
<i>key</i>	Schlüssel, m.
<i>kill</i>	erschlagen, töten
<i>kilometer</i>	Kilometer, m.
<i>king</i>	König, m.
<i>kitchen</i>	Küche, f.
<i>kitchen range</i>	Herd, m.
<i>knee</i>	Knie, n.
<i>know</i>	wissen
<i>know, be acquainted</i>	kennen
<i>lad</i>	Knabe, m.
<i>lady</i>	Dame, f.
<i>lake</i>	See, m.
<i>landscape</i>	Landschaft, f.
<i>language</i>	Sprache, f.
<i>last</i>	letzte
<i>late</i>	spät
<i>laugh</i>	lachen
<i>laughter</i>	Gelächter, n.
<i>lazy</i>	faul
<i>lead</i>	Blei, n.
<i>learn</i>	lernen
<i>leg</i>	Bein, n.
<i>let</i>	lassen
<i>letter</i>	Brief, m.
<i>library</i>	Bibliothek, f.
<i>like</i>	gern haben, mögen
<i>lion</i>	Löwe, m.

<i>little</i>	klein
<i>little (amount)</i>	wenig
<i>live</i>	leben
<i>live, reside</i>	wohnen
<i>living room</i>	Wohnzimmer, n.
<i>local call</i>	Ortsgespräch, n.
<i>lock</i>	Schloß, n.
<i>lock</i>	zuschließen
<i>loneliness</i>	Einsamkeit, f.
<i>long</i>	lang
<i>long distance call</i>	Ferngespräch, n.
<i>look for</i>	suchen
<i>look up (in a book)</i>	nachschlagen
<i>lose</i>	verlieren
<i>loud</i>	laut
<i>love</i>	lieben
<i>low</i>	niedrig
<i>Lower Saxony</i>	Niedersachsen
<i>Low German</i>	Plattdeutsch
<i>luck</i>	Glück, n.
<i>magazine</i>	Zeitschrift, f.
<i>make the Abitur, graduate</i>	Abitur machen
<i>male nurse</i>	Krankenpfleger, m.
<i>man</i>	Herr, m.
<i>many a</i>	mancher
<i>March</i>	März, m.
<i>market</i>	Markt, m.
<i>market square</i>	Platz, m.
<i>marry</i>	heiraten
<i>masculine</i>	männlich
<i>may</i>	dürfen
<i>May</i>	Mai, m.
<i>mean</i>	meinen
<i>meet</i>	treffen
<i>menu</i>	Speisekarte, f.

mess
message
midnight
milk
minute
mirror
Miss
mobile phone, cell phone
Monday
money
more
morning
mother
mother-in-law
mouth
movie theater
Mr.
Mrs.
Ms.
much
murder
museum
music
must, have to
my
naturally
nature
near
neck, throat
need
neither . . . nor
nephew
nervous
never
new

Kram, m.
Botschaft, f.
Mitternacht, f.
Milch, f.
Minute, f.
Spiegel, m.
Fräulein, n.
Mobiltelefon, n.
Montag, m.
Geld, n.
mehr
Morgen, m., Vormittag, m.
Mutter, f.
Schwiegermutter, f.
Mund, m.
Kino, n.
Herr, m.
Frau, f.
Frau, f.
viel
umbringen
Museum, n.
Musik, f.
müssen
mein
natürlich
Natur, f.
nah
Hals, m.
brauchen
weder . . . noch
Neffe, m.
nervös
niemals, nie
neu

<i>news, message</i>	Nachricht, f.
<i>newspaper</i>	Zeitung, f.
<i>next</i>	nächste
<i>next to</i>	neben
<i>nice</i>	nett
<i>niece</i>	Nichte, f.
<i>nine</i>	neun
<i>nineteen</i>	neunzehn
<i>ninety</i>	neunzig
<i>no, not any</i>	kein
<i>no idea</i>	keine Ahnung
<i>no man's land</i>	Niemandsländ
<i>nonetheless</i>	nichtsdestoweniger
<i>nonsense</i>	Quatsch, m.
<i>noon</i>	Mittag, m.
<i>no one</i>	niemand
<i>nose</i>	Nase, f.
<i>not</i>	nicht
<i>not any</i>	keinerlei
<i>notebook</i>	Heft, n.
<i>nothing at all</i>	gar nichts
<i>novel</i>	Roman, m.
<i>November</i>	November, m.
<i>novice</i>	Neuling, m.
<i>now</i>	jetzt
<i>now and then</i>	hin und wieder
<i>nowhere</i>	nirgendwo
<i>nurse</i>	Krankenschwester, f.
<i>occur</i>	passieren
<i>October</i>	Oktober, m.
<i>office</i>	Büro, n.
<i>old-fashioned</i>	altmodisch
<i>old man</i>	Alte, m.
<i>on, onto</i>	auf
<i>once, one time</i>	einmal

<i>one</i>	eins
<i>one-way street</i>	Einbahnstraße, f.
<i>only</i>	nur
<i>on no account</i>	keinesfalls
<i>on the way</i>	unterwegs
<i>open</i>	aufmachen
<i>open (a book)</i>	aufschlagen
<i>opera</i>	Oper, f.
<i>or</i>	oder
<i>order</i>	bestellen
<i>original</i>	ursprünglich
<i>oven</i>	Ofen, m.
<i>over, above</i>	über
<i>overseas call</i>	Auslandsgespräch, n.
<i>ox</i>	Ochse, m.
<i>palace</i>	Schloß, n.
<i>pants</i>	Hose, f.
<i>paper</i>	Papier, n.
<i>parents</i>	Eltern, pl.
<i>park</i>	Park, m.
<i>parliament</i>	Bundestag, m.
<i>parliament building</i>	
<i>in Berlin</i>	Reichstag, m.
<i>password</i>	Passwort, n.
<i>pastry shop</i>	Konditorei, f.
<i>pencil</i>	Bleistift, m.
<i>people</i>	Leute, pl.
<i>perceive</i>	empfinden
<i>perfect</i>	perfekt
<i>physician</i>	Arzt, m.
<i>piano</i>	Klavier, n.
<i>pick up</i>	abholen
<i>picture postcard</i>	Ansichtskarte, f.
<i>pig</i>	Schwein, n.
<i>pigeon, dove</i>	Taube, f.

<i>pipe</i>	Pfeife, f.
<i>plant</i>	Pflanze, f.
<i>plate</i>	Teller, m.
<i>platform</i>	Bahnsteig, m.
<i>play</i>	Schauspiel, n.
<i>play</i>	spielen
<i>play chess</i>	Schach spielen
<i>play Ping-Pong</i>	Tischtennis spielen
<i>please</i>	bitte
<i>please</i>	gefallen
<i>pocket</i>	Tasche, f.
<i>pocket watch</i>	Taschenuhr, f.
<i>poetry</i>	Poesie, f.
<i>Poland</i>	Polen
<i>policeman</i>	Polizist, m.
<i>poor</i>	arm
<i>popular</i>	populär
<i>porpoise</i>	Delphin, m.
<i>position</i>	Stellung, f.
<i>postcard</i>	Postkarte, f.
<i>post office, postal system</i>	Post, f.
<i>pound, half a kilo</i>	Pfund, n.
<i>preferably</i>	lieber
<i>prep school</i>	Gymnasium, n.
<i>prevail</i>	überwiegen
<i>price</i>	Preis, m.
<i>princess</i>	Prinzessin, f.
<i>prize</i>	Preis, m.
<i>property</i>	Eigentum, n.
<i>punish</i>	bestrafen
<i>pupil</i>	Schüler, m.
<i>purity</i>	Reinheit, f.
<i>put down</i>	hinlegen
<i>quality</i>	Qualität, f.
<i>quarter</i>	Viertel, n.

<i>quiet</i>	leise
<i>racecar</i>	Rennwagen, m.
<i>radio</i>	Radio, n.
<i>railroad</i>	Eisenbahn, f.
<i>railroad car</i>	Eisenbahnwagen, m.
<i>railroad station</i>	Bahnhof, m.
<i>rain</i>	Regen, m., regnen
<i>rainy</i>	regnerisch
<i>rattlesnake</i>	Klapperschlange, f.
<i>read</i>	lesen
<i>receive, get</i>	bekommen
<i>red</i>	rot
<i>refrigerator</i>	Kühlschrank, m.
<i>relatives</i>	Verwandten, pl.
<i>remain standing</i>	stehen bleiben
<i>repair</i>	reparieren
<i>restaurant</i>	Restaurant, n.
<i>rhinoceros</i>	Nashorn, n.
<i>rich</i>	reich
<i>right</i>	recht
<i>roof</i>	Dach, n.
<i>roof tile</i>	Dachziegel, m.
<i>rose</i>	Rose, f.
<i>rough</i>	rauh
<i>rug, carpet</i>	Teppich, m.
<i>ruined, spoiled</i>	verdorben
<i>run</i>	laufen
<i>Russian woman</i>	Russin, f.
<i>sad</i>	traurig
<i>saddle</i>	Sattel, m.
<i>sailor</i>	Matrose, m.
<i>salt and pepper</i>	Salz und Pfeffer
<i>Saturday</i>	Sonnabend, m., Samstag, m.
<i>sausage</i>	Wurst, f.
<i>say</i>	sagen

<i>school</i>	Schule, f.
<i>school year</i>	Schuljahr, n.
<i>science</i>	Wissenschaft, f.
<i>sea</i>	See, f.
<i>seagull</i>	Seemöwe, f.
<i>seal</i>	Seehund, m.
<i>search</i>	Suche, f., suchen
<i>see</i>	sehen
<i>sell</i>	verkaufen
<i>send</i>	schicken, senden
<i>sentence</i>	Satz, m.
<i>September</i>	September, m.
<i>seven</i>	sieben
<i>seventeen</i>	siebzehn
<i>seventy</i>	siebzig
<i>she</i>	sie (singular)
<i>sheep</i>	Schaf, n.
<i>shirt</i>	Hemd, n.
<i>short</i>	kurz
<i>should, ought to</i>	sollen
<i>shoulder</i>	Schulter, f.
<i>shout, scream</i>	schreien
<i>shower</i>	Dusche, f., duschen
<i>sick</i>	krank
<i>silver</i>	Silber, n.
<i>simple</i>	einfach
<i>since</i>	seit
<i>singer</i>	Sänger, m.
<i>sister</i>	Schwester, f.
<i>sister-in-law</i>	Schwägerin, f.
<i>sit</i>	sitzen
<i>six</i>	sechs
<i>sixteen</i>	sechzehn
<i>sixty</i>	sechzig
<i>ski</i>	Ski laufen

<i>skunk</i>	Stinktier, n.
<i>sleep</i>	schlafen
<i>slow</i>	langsam
<i>smart</i>	klug
<i>smoke</i>	rauchen
<i>smoking compartment</i>	Raucherabteil, n.
<i>smooth</i>	glatt
<i>snake</i>	Schlange, f.
<i>snow</i>	Schnee, m.
<i>soccer</i>	Fußball, m.
<i>sofa, couch</i>	Sofa, n.
<i>soldier</i>	Soldat, m.
<i>something</i>	etwas
<i>son</i>	Sohn, m.
<i>sooner</i>	eher
<i>sour</i>	sauer
<i>Spaniard</i>	Spanier, m.
<i>sparrow</i>	Sperling, m.
<i>speak</i>	sprechen
<i>spend (money)</i>	ausgeben
<i>spend (time)</i>	verbringen
<i>spoon</i>	Löffel, m.
<i>spring</i>	Frühling, m.
<i>stairs</i>	Treppe, f.
<i>stamp, seal</i>	Stempel, m.
<i>stand up, get up</i>	aufstehen
<i>stand</i>	stehen
<i>stay, remain</i>	bleiben
<i>steel</i>	Stahl, m.
<i>still</i>	noch
<i>stomach</i>	Magen, m.
<i>stop, cease</i>	aufhören
<i>store</i>	Laden, m.
<i>stork</i>	Storch, m.
<i>storm</i>	Sturm, m.

<i>strong</i>	stark
<i>study</i>	Studium, n., studieren
<i>stupid</i>	dumm
<i>stupidity</i>	Dummheit, f.
<i>such a</i>	solcher
<i>summer</i>	Sommer, m.
<i>Sunday</i>	Sonntag, m.
<i>sunny</i>	sonnig
<i>super highway</i>	Autobahn, f.
<i>swan</i>	Schwan, m.
<i>Sweden</i>	Schweden
<i>sweet</i>	süß
<i>swim</i>	schwimmen
<i>Switzerland</i>	Schweiz, f.
<i>take</i>	nehmen
<i>taste</i>	Geschmack, m.
<i>tea</i>	Tee, m.
<i>teach</i>	beibringen
<i>teacher</i>	Lehrer, m.
<i>telephone</i>	telefonieren
<i>telephone book</i>	Telefonbuch, n.
<i>telephone booth</i>	Telefonzelle, f.
<i>telephone operator</i>	Vermittlung, f.
<i>telephone receiver</i>	Telefonhörer, m.
<i>temperature</i>	Temperatur, f.
<i>ten</i>	zehn
<i>terrace</i>	Terrasse, f.
<i>terrible</i>	furchtbar
<i>terrific, glorious</i>	herrlich
<i>test</i>	Prüfung, f.
<i>thank</i>	danken
<i>thank you</i>	danke schön
<i>that</i>	jener
<i>theater</i>	Theater, n.
<i>theater seat</i>	Platz, m.

<i>their</i>	ihr
<i>theory</i>	Theorie, f.
<i>there</i>	da
<i>there</i>	dort
<i>there is, there are</i>	es gibt
<i>they</i>	sie (plural)
<i>thief</i>	Dieb, m.
<i>think</i>	denken
<i>third</i>	dritte
<i>thirteen</i>	dreizehn
<i>thirty</i>	dreißig
<i>this</i>	dieser
<i>thousand</i>	tausend
<i>three</i>	drei
<i>through</i>	durch
<i>thumb</i>	Daumen, m.
<i>thunderstorm</i>	Gewitter, n.
<i>Thursday</i>	Donnerstag, m.
<i>tiger</i>	Tiger, m.
<i>time</i>	Mal, n., Zeit, f.
<i>tin</i>	Zinn, n.
<i>tired</i>	müde
<i>to</i>	zu
<i>today</i>	heute
<i>toe</i>	Zehe, f.
<i>tomatoes</i>	Tomaten, pl.
<i>tomorrow</i>	morgen
<i>too bad</i>	schade
<i>train</i>	Zug, m.
<i>translation</i>	Übersetzung, f.
<i>travel agency</i>	Reisebüro, n.
<i>trillion</i>	Billion, f.
<i>truth</i>	Wahrheit, f.
<i>try</i>	versuchen
<i>try on</i>	anprobieren

<i>Tuesday</i>	Dienstag, m.
<i>Turkey</i>	Türkei, f.
<i>TV set</i>	Fernseher, m.
<i>twelve</i>	zwölf
<i>twenty</i>	zwanzig
<i>two</i>	zwei, zwo
<i>ugly</i>	hässlich
<i>uncle</i>	Onkel, m.
<i>under</i>	unter
<i>unfortunately</i>	leider
<i>United States</i>	Vereinigten Staaten, pl.
<i>unity</i>	Einigkeit, f.
<i>university</i>	Universität, f.
<i>unlock</i>	aufschließen
<i>until, as far as</i>	bis
<i>use</i>	gebrauchen
<i>vegetables</i>	Gemüse, n.
<i>very</i>	sehr
<i>village</i>	Dorf, n.
<i>violinist</i>	Geigenspieler, m.
<i>visit</i>	besuchen
<i>voice</i>	Stimme, f.
<i>vulture</i>	Geier, m.
<i>wait</i>	warten
<i>wall</i>	Wand, f.
<i>wall clock</i>	Wanduhr, f.
<i>walrus</i>	Walross, n.
<i>want</i>	wollen
<i>war</i>	Krieg, m.
<i>warm</i>	warm
<i>watch TV</i>	fernsehen
<i>water</i>	Wasser, n.
<i>we</i>	wir
<i>weak</i>	schwach
<i>wear</i>	tragen

<i>weather</i>	Wetter, n.
<i>weather report</i>	Wetterbericht, m.
<i>Wednesday</i>	Mittwoch, m.
<i>week</i>	Woche, f.
<i>weekend</i>	Weekenende, n.
<i>weight</i>	Gewicht, n.
<i>well</i>	Brunnen, m.
<i>well</i>	gut
<i>wet</i>	naß
<i>whale</i>	Wal(fisch), m.
<i>what</i>	was
<i>what kind of</i>	was für
<i>when, whenever</i>	wenn
<i>where</i>	wo
<i>where (to)</i>	wohin
<i>which</i>	welcher
<i>whipped cream</i>	Schlagsahne, f.
<i>whisper</i>	flüstern
<i>white</i>	weiß
<i>who</i>	wer
<i>whole</i>	ganz
<i>whom</i>	wen, wem
<i>whose</i>	wessen
<i>why</i>	warum
<i>wife</i>	Ehefrau, f.
<i>wild</i>	wild
<i>will, shall</i>	werden
<i>win</i>	gewinnen
<i>wind</i>	Wind, m.
<i>window</i>	Fenster, n.
<i>wine</i>	Wein, m.
<i>winter</i>	Winter, m.
<i>with</i>	mit
<i>without</i>	ohne
<i>wolf</i>	Wolf, m.

<i>woman</i>	Frau, f.
<i>work</i>	Arbeit, f.
<i>work</i>	arbeiten
<i>wren</i>	Zaunkönig, m.
<i>wristwatch</i>	Armbanduhr, f.
<i>write</i>	schreiben
<i>year</i>	Jahr, n.
<i>yellow</i>	gelb
<i>you (informal)</i>	du
<i>you (informal pl.)</i>	ihr
<i>you (formal)</i>	Sie
<i>young</i>	jung
<i>youngster</i>	Jüngling, m.
<i>your</i>	dein
<i>you're welcome</i>	bitte schön
<i>youth</i>	Jugend, f.
<i>zero</i>	Null, f.

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